

## RYAN 2023 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS AND PROXY STATEMENT





Lisa M. Palumbo Chair of the Board



## **Dear Stockholder:**

We are pleased to invite you to attend our Annual Meeting of Stockholders on May 17, 2023, at the DoubleTree Hotel, 1201 Riverplace Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida, at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time. In the following Notice of 2023 Annual Meeting, we describe the matters upon which you will be asked to vote at the meeting.

Over the past year, RYAM made tremendous progress in building out our BioFuture by creating and investing in sustainable solutions, capturing value for our bio-based products, reducing costs through improved operational reliability, and decreasing its leverage. Altogether, these achievements resulted in a 68 percent total return in 2022.

Our unique and innovative products are among the highest performing and most sustainable in our industry. These attributes have enabled us to capture price increases reflective of our products' value. For 2022, we negotiated price increases for our cellulose specialties grades, and after the first quarter, we implemented a cost surcharge to mitigate the impact of rapidly escalating cost inflation. For 2023, we successfully negotiated higher pricing versus 2022 (inclusive of the cost surcharge), and we also built greater flexibility into our cellulose specialty customer contracts that will enable us to more efficiently adapt to market dynamics and cost inflation in the future.

To improve our competitive advantage at our four highly specialized bio-products facilities, we invested in each of them through extended planned maintenance outages in the first half of 2022 to reduce production costs and improve operating reliability. We also controlled our discretionary spend, reduced our material usage of key inputs, and improved our logistics management. As a result, our bio-products facilities are more capable to meet the future demand for our products.

Building on a 95-year history of accumulated technical acumen, RYAM is pioneering new technologies to transform renewable resources into additional remarkable products that will shape a sustainable future. For example, our Tartas, France secondgeneration bioethanol facility, expected to be operational in 2024, is expected to produce non-food-based bioethanol to supplement gasoline to power vehicles, generating incremental stockholder value while reducing carbon emissions.

RYAM is well positioned to thrive in a sustainable future and deeply committed to operating in a sustainable manner. In 2021, we announced an ambitious plan to reduce our company's greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030. In 2022, the *first year* of that plan, we achieved an 8% overall reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, putting us well ahead of our schedule. We also realized significant improvements in the safety performance at our facilities in 2022, continuing the positive trend that we've experienced over the past 3 years.

Finally, RYAM has taken steps to strengthen its balance sheet. By year end 2022, we had reduced our net debt to Adjusted EBITDA leverage to 4.0 times from 5.4 times at the end of 2021. Revenues grew 22 percent to \$1.7 billion and Adjusted EBITDA grew 39 percent compared to the prior year. In 2023, we expect to generate free cash flow, which we plan to allocate to develop new sustainable products and further reduce our net debt leverage. These measures will help us weather future economic challenges and provide us with greater flexibility to pursue growth opportunities utilizing our existing asset base.

We are confident in RYAM's future, its strong position in the market, and our team's ability to continue delivering value to stockholders. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to work together to build a strong and sustainable future.

Please review the proxy/notice card for instructions on how to vote over the Internet, by telephone or by mail to be certain that your shares of stock are represented at the meeting, even if you plan to attend. It is important that all RYAM stockholders vote and participate in the affairs and governance of our Company.

LISA M. PALUMBO Chair of the Board

March 31, 2023





March 31, 2023

# Notice of 2023 Annual Meeting

### **TO OUR STOCKHOLDERS:**

Notice is hereby given that the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc., a Delaware corporation, will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel, 1201 Riverplace Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time, to:

- 1) Elect the Board's three nominees for Class III directors for terms expiring in 2026
- 2) Approve an amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify the Board of Directors
- 3) Approve an amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the supermajority voting provisions
- 4) Approve, in a non-binding vote, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in the accompanying Proxy Statement
- 5) Approve the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan
- 6) Ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2023
- 7) Act upon such other matters as may properly come before the meeting

All stockholders holding Rayonier Advanced Materials Common Stock of record at the close of business on March 20, 2023, are entitled to vote at the meeting.

WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING IN PERSON, PLEASE PROMPTLY SUBMIT YOUR PROXY OR VOTING INSTRUCTION. Most stockholders have a choice of voting over the Internet, by telephone or by using a traditional proxy card. Please refer to the enclosed proxy materials or the information forwarded by your bank, broker or other holder of record to determine which voting methods are available to you. We urge you to complete and submit your proxy electronically or by telephone (if those options are available to you) as a means of helping the Company conserve natural resources and reduce expenses related to the meeting.

Please be aware that, if you own shares in a brokerage account, you must instruct your broker on how to vote your shares. New York Stock Exchange rules do not allow your broker to vote your shares without your instructions on any of the proposals except the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Please exercise your right as a stockholder to vote on all proposals, including the election of directors, by instructing your broker by proxy.

We urge you to vote your stock, by any of the available methods, at your earliest convenience.

MghAm

R. Colby Slaughter *Corporate Secretary* 

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## **NOTE ABOUT FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain statements in this Proxy Statement regarding anticipated financial, business, legal or other outcomes including business and market conditions, outlook and other similar statements relating to Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc.'s future events, developments, or financial or operational performance or results, are "forward-looking statements" made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and other federal securities laws. These forward-looking statements are identified by the use of words such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "expect," "estimate," "believe," "intend," "plan," "forecast," "anticipate," "project," "guidance" and other similar language. However, the absence of these or similar words or expressions does not mean that a statement is not forward-looking. While we believe these forward-looking statements are reasonable when made, forwardlooking statements are not guarantees of future performance or events and undue reliance should not be placed on these statements. Although we believe the expectations reflected in any forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, we can give no assurance that these expectations will be attained, and it is possible that actual results may differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements due to a variety of risks and uncertainties. A detailed discussion of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results and events to differ materially from such forward-looking statements is included in Item 1A-Risk Factors in our 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

## **NOTE ABOUT NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES**

A "non-GAAP financial measure" is generally defined as a numerical measure of a company's historical or future performance that excludes or includes amounts, or is subject to adjustments, so as to be different from the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). This document contains certain non-GAAP financial measures, including Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) and adjusted EBITDA. *Each non-GAAP measure is reconciled to its most directly comparable GAAP financial measure in Appendix F.* 

We believe these non-GAAP measures provide useful information to our Board of Directors, management and investors regarding certain trends relating to our financial condition and results of operations. Our management uses these non-GAAP measures to compare our performance to that of prior periods for trend analyses, for purposes of determining management incentive compensation and for budgeting, forecasting and planning purposes.

We do not consider non-GAAP measures an alternative to financial measures determined in accordance with GAAP. The principal limitation of these non-GAAP financial measures is they may exclude significant expense and income items that are required by GAAP to be recognized in our consolidated financial statements. In addition, they reflect the exercise of management's judgment about which expense and income items are excluded or included in determining these non-GAAP financial measures. In order to compensate for these limitations, reconciliations of the non-GAAP financial measures we use to their most directly comparable GAAP measures are provided. Non-GAAP financial measures should not be relied upon, in whole or part, in evaluating the financial condition, results of operations or future prospects of the Company.

# General Information about this Proxy Statement and the Annual Meeting

## 2023 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF RYAM WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

The 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. (the Annual Meeting) will be held on May 17, 2023, for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of 2023 Annual Meeting. This Proxy Statement and the accompanying proxy card are furnished in connection with the solicitation by our Board of Directors (sometimes referred to as "our Board" or "the Board") of proxies to be used at the meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof. We may refer to Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. in this Proxy Statement as "we," "us," "our," the "Company," "RYAM" or "Rayonier Advanced Materials."

#### Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting

We are utilizing Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) rules that allow companies to furnish proxy materials to stockholders via the Internet. If you received an Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials (the Internet Notice) by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials unless you specifically request one. The Internet Notice tells you how to access and review the Proxy Statement, form of proxy card and our 2022 Annual Report to Stockholders (the Annual Report), which includes our 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K, as well as instructions for how to submit your proxy over the Internet. If you received the Internet Notice and would still like to receive a printed copy of our proxy materials, simply follow the instructions for requesting printed materials included in the Internet Notice.

The Internet Notice, these proxy solicitation materials and the Annual Report were first made available on the Internet and mailed to certain stockholders on or about March 31, 2023.

## The Notice of 2023 Annual Meeting, this Proxy Statement and the Annual Report are available at www.proxyvote.com.

#### **Annual Report**

A copy of the Annual Report, which includes the 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K, is available on the Internet at www.proxyvote.com as set forth in the Internet Notice. However, we will send a copy of our 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K (with financial statements but without exhibits) to any stockholder without charge upon written request addressed to:

RYAM Investor Relations 1301 Riverplace Boulevard Suite 2300 Jacksonville, Florida 32207, USA

#### **Delivery of Materials to Stockholders Sharing an Address**

In addition to furnishing proxy materials over the Internet, the Company takes advantage of the SEC's householding rules to reduce the delivery cost of materials. Under such rules, only one Internet Notice or, if paper copies are requested, only one Proxy Statement and Annual Report, will be delivered to multiple stockholders sharing an address unless the Company has received contrary instructions from one or more of the stockholders. If you are a stockholder who resides in the same household with another stockholder and you wish to receive a separate Proxy Statement and Annual Report or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials for each account, please contact Broadridge Financial Services, Inc. (Broadridge), toll free at 1-866-540-7095. You may also write to Broadridge, Householding Department, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, New York 11717. Any stockholder making such request will promptly receive a separate copy of the proxy materials, and separate copies of all future proxy materials. Any stockholder currently sharing an address with another stockholder, but nonetheless receiving separate copies of the materials, may request delivery of a single copy in the future by contacting Broadridge Householding Department by telephone or mail as indicated above.

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## **Proxy Statement Summary**

This summary highlights selected information that is provided in more detail throughout this Proxy Statement. This summary does not contain all of the information you should consider before voting, and you should read the entire Proxy Statement before casting your vote.

## **2023 ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION**



#### Date & Time May 17, 2023

5:30 p.m. Eastern Time



#### Location

DoubleTree Hotel 1201 Riverplace Boulevard Jacksonville, Florida



#### **Record Date**

Record holders of our Common Stock as of March 20, 2023 are entitled to notice of and to vote at, the Annual Meeting

#### Voting

Stockholders of record holding our Common Stock as of the close of business on the record date, which is the close of business on March 20, 2023 (Record Date), are entitled to vote. Each share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote for each matter to be voted upon.

#### Admission

To attend the Annual Meeting, you will need to bring (1) proof of ownership of Common Stock as of the record date and (2) a valid government-issued photo identification. If you do not have proof of ownership together with a valid government-issued photo identification, you will not be admitted to the meeting.

Admission to the Annual Meeting is limited to stockholders holding our Common Stock as of the record date and one immediate family member; one individual properly designated as a stockholder's authorized proxy holder; or one qualified representative authorized to present a stockholder proposal properly before the meeting.

No cameras, recording equipment, large bags, briefcases, or packages will be permitted in the Annual Meeting. The Company may implement additional security procedures to ensure the safety of the meeting attendees.

Questions and Answers about the Annual Meeting can be found in Appendix A.

## PROPOSALS

MATTER		BOARD VOTE RECOMMENDATION	PAGE REFERENCE (FOR MORE DETAIL)
Proposal 1	Elect the Board's three nominees for Class III directors for terms expiring in 2026	<b>FOR</b> each nominee	13
Proposal 2	Approve an amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify the Board of Directors	FOR the proposal	26
Proposal 3	Approve an amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the supermajority voting provisions	FOR the proposal	27
Proposal 4	Approve, in a non-binding vote, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this Proxy Statement	FOR the proposal	29
Proposal 5	Approve the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan	FOR the proposal	65
Proposal 6	Ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2023	FOR the proposal	74

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# Commitment to Best Practices in Corporate Governance

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE HIGHLIGHTS**

Our corporate governance structure is designed to ensure that our Board effectively exercises its responsibilities and oversight of management's performance in creating long-term value for our stockholders. The Board also plays a critical role in monitoring adherence to our Core Values and Cultural Cornerstones and promoting the exercise of responsible corporate citizenship. The Board values the feedback we receive from our stockholders and has taken these perspectives into account in implementing actions to broaden stockholder rights and enrich Board composition. Our leading corporate governance practices include:

STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS	
Management Proposal to Declassify the Board of Directors	In our 2019, 2020 and 2022 proxy statements, management submitted a proposal to be voted on by stockholders at the 2019, 2020 and 2022 Annual Meetings to declassify the Company's Board of Directors. This proposal did not receive the required stockholder approval. Again, at our 2023 Annual Meeting, management is proposing that the stockholders vote to declassify the Board.
Management Proposal to Eliminate Supermajority Voting Provisions	In our 2019, 2020 and 2022 proxy statements, management submitted a proposal to be voted on by stockholders at the 2019, 2020 and 2022 Annual Meetings to eliminate supermajority voting provisions from the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation in favor of a majority voting standard. This proposal did not receive the required stockholder approval. Again, at our 2023 Annual Meeting, management is proposing that the stockholders vote to eliminate the supermajority voting provisions from the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation.
Independent, Non-Executive Chair of the Board	Our Board of Directors is led by a Non-Executive Chair.
Single Voting Class	All holders of RYAM Common Stock have the same voting rights - one vote per share of stock.
Majority Voting Standard for Director Elections	Our Amended and Restated Bylaws mandate that directors be elected under a majority voting standard in uncontested elections. Each director must receive more votes "For" his or her election than votes "Against" in order to be elected.
Director Resignation	Any incumbent nominee for director who does not receive the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in any uncontested election shall tender his or her resignation. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee (Nominating Committee) will consider the resignation and make a recommendation to the full Board. The full Board will then make a determination to accept or reject the tendered resignation and publicly disclose its decision and rationale.



## **BOARD COMPOSITION AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

BOARD COMPOSITION AND ACCOUNTABI	
Independence	Our Corporate Governance Principles (CGPs) require that not less than 75% of our directors be independent. At all times during 2022, 80% or more of our directors were independent, and at all times during 2023 through the Annual Meeting, 89% (eight of nine) of our directors were independent. Additionally, each of our Audit, Compensation and Management Development, Nominating and Corporate Governance and Sustainability committees have consisted entirely of independent directors. See Director Independence section.
Diversity	The composition of the Board represents a diverse and broad mix of skills, experience, attributes, knowledge and perspectives relevant to our business. Three of our nine directors are women and one of the remaining six is racially/ethnically diverse. A summary of relevant director experience and qualifications can be found in the Director Qualifications section.
<b>BOARD COMPOSITION AND ACCOUNTABI</b>	LITY
Continuous Board Refreshment	The average tenure of our directors is 6.2 years. Since 2018, the Board has appointed six new directors, representing refreshment of 66% of the current nine-member Board in that time. Charles R. Eggert is the Board's most recent addition, having been appointed in October 2022.
Annual Management Succession Planning Review	The Board conducts an annual review of management development and succession planning for the CEO and Company senior leadership. See Succession Planning section.
Director Tenure	Our CGPs provide that a director is required to submit an offer of resignation for consideration by the Board upon any significant change in the director's principal employment or personal circumstance that could adversely impact his or her reputation or the reputation of the Company. See Director Qualifications section.
Director Overboarding Limits	Our CGPs contain provisions to ensure that each of our directors is able to dedicate the meaningful amount of time and attention necessary to be a highly effective member of the Board. A director who is not serving as CEO of a public company may serve on no more than three public company boards (in addition to our Board), and a director serving as the CEO of a public company (including our CEO) may serve on no more than one other public company board (in addition to our Board). No director serving on the Company's Audit Committee may also serve on the Audit Committee of more than two other public companies.
Mandatory Stock Ownership	Each of our directors is required to own Company stock totaling not less than the number of shares constituting the cash portion of his or her annual retainer for the previous five years. See Director Mandatory Stock Ownership and Retention Requirements section.
Annual Limit on Director Equity Awards and Cash Compensation	Our Incentive Stock Plan limits annual director awards. See Annual Limit on Director Equity Awards and Cash Compensation section.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES**

Our Board has adopted Corporate Governance Principles (CGPs) which govern the function, composition and operation of the Board. The CGPs establish, among other things, criteria for determining director independence and filling Board vacancies. Our CGPs are found on the Company's website at www.RYAM.com at the "Investors" tab under "Corporate Governance". The Board, through its Nominating Committee, regularly reviews developments in corporate governance and best practices and modifies the CGPs, committee charters and key practices as necessary or desirable.

## DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The Company's Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). In accordance with NYSE listing standards, the Board makes affirmative determinations annually as to the independence of each director and nominee for election as a director. To assist in making such determinations, the Board has adopted a set of Director Independence Standards which conform to or, in some cases, are more exacting than, the independence requirements set forth in the NYSE listing standards. Our Director Independence Standards are appended to the Company's CGPs and are available at www.RYAM.com at the "Investors" tab under "Corporate Governance". Based on our Director Independence Standards, the Board has affirmatively determined in its business judgment that all persons who have served as directors of our Company at any time since January 1, 2022, other than Messrs. Bloomquist, Boynton and Consiglio, were independent. In addition, at all times during 2022, 80% or more of our directors were independent, and at all times during 2023 through the Annual Meeting, 89% (eight of nine) of our directors were independent.

## **NON-EXECUTIVE CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

On May 28, 2022, the Board elected an independent director, Lisa M. Palumbo, to serve as the Board's Non-Executive Chair. Our Board believes that the separation of the Chair and the CEO roles is appropriate and in the best interests of our Company and its stockholders at this time. This separation recognizes the time and effort our CEO is required to devote to the strategy and day-to-day management of our business and allows our Chair to focus on governance and oversight practices that benefit the long-term interests of our stockholders.

The duties of our Non-Executive Chair of the Board include:

- » Leading the Board's oversight of the management of the Company
- » Approving materials and agendas for Board meetings in consultation with other directors and management
- » Presiding during stockholder meetings, Board meetings and executive sessions of the independent directors
- » Facilitating communication among directors and the regular flow of information between management and directors
- » Serving as principal liaison between independent directors and the CEO
- » Leading independent directors in periodic reviews of the performance of the CEO
- » If requested by major stockholders, ensuring he or she is available for consultation and direct communication
- » Recommending independent outside advisors who report directly to the Board on material issues
- » Assisting the Board and the Company's officers in adhering to the CGPs
- » In collaboration with the Nominating Committee, leading the Board's annual self-assessment, Committee assignment process and recruitment efforts



## INDEPENDENT NON-MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR MEETINGS

Our independent non-management directors met separately (without the CEO or any members of management) during six regularly scheduled meetings in 2022; these meetings were chaired by our Non-Executive Chair of the Board. Independent directors also have the opportunity to meet without management present at their respective Board committee meetings.

## **BOARD DIVERSITY**



Our Nominating Committee evaluates the specific personal and professional attributes of each director candidate versus those of the existing Board members to ensure the Board is well-rounded in the terms of competencies, experience, attributes, personal history, background, perspective, skills and expertise. Our Board views diversity as a priority and seeks representation across a range of attributes including gender, race, ethnicity, age and similar factors that can enhance overall Board perspective and effectiveness. Our current Board composition well reflects the Board's commitment to these principles. The Board has appointed six new directors since 2018, representing a refreshment rate of 66% over that period and an overall average tenure of approximately six years. Three of the Board's nine directors are women and one of the Board's male directors is racially/ethnically diverse. The Nominating Committee assesses the Board's diversity through its annual assessment of Board structure and composition and also through its review of the annual Board and committee performance evaluations.

## **BOARD EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT**

Annual self-evaluation and assessment of Board performance helps ensure that the Board and its committees function effectively and in the best interest of our stockholders. This process also promotes good governance and helps set expectations about the relationship and interaction of the Board and management. The Board's annual self-evaluation and assessment process, which was overseen by our Non-Executive Chair of the Board in 2022, is currently structured and carried out as follows:

- » The Nominating Committee reviews the prior year's process of self-evaluation and assessment for the Board and Board committees, as well as current trends and best practices.
- » Under the auspices of the Nominating Committee, the Corporate Secretary facilitates the process agreed upon by the Committee. In 2022, this process consisted of preparation of suggested topics of discussion (including key events that occurred during the prior year), which were disseminated to all directors, followed by confidential interviews of each Board member by the Corporate Secretary.
- » The feedback generated from the interviews is summarized by the Corporate Secretary and shared with the Non-Executive Chair of the Board.
- » These results are then communicated in executive session to the full Board and each committee, as well as to individual directors, as appropriate, which fosters robust discussion and consensus on actions to be undertaken.

» Changes to policies and practices, as warranted, are implemented as directed by the Board.

The structure of this process is reviewed annually by the Company's Nominating Committee, which makes changes to the process as it deems appropriate in accordance with good governance practices.

## SUCCESSION PLANNING

One of our Board's primary responsibilities is to ensure that the Company has a high-performing management team in place. Our full Board has responsibility for management succession planning. The Board manages the succession planning process and, on an annual basis, reviews and approves succession plans for the CEO and other senior executives. This detailed process is designed to maximize the pool of qualified internal candidates who can assume top management positions. Increasing the number of diverse candidates within this pool is a key priority for the Company. To assist with this process, the CEO annually provides our Board with an assessment of senior managers and the potential of each manager to succeed to the CEO position. The CEO also provides the Board with an assessment of persons considered potential successors to senior management positions.

## **OVERSIGHT OF RISK**

We have a robust risk assessment and mitigation process, overseen by our Board, which includes extensive interaction among our Board, CEO and members of senior management.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS		ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		AUDIT COMMITTEE		COMPENSATION AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
The Board oversees risk management through a management-led assessment process that involves direct Board committee oversight. The Board annually appoints the members of the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Committee, which is chaired by the CEO, who also serves as the Company's Chief Risk Officer. Senior executives of the Company are members of the ERM Committee.	» » » »	The ERM Committee appoints the members of business unit and staff function-level Risk Assessment and Mitigation teams, which continually identify and assess the risks facing their respective business or function and submit semi-annual reports to the ERM Committee. These reports form the basis of the ERM Committee's annual risk assessment. This assessment is used to develop a list of enterprise-level material risks which are reported to the Audit Committee for review and evaluation of mitigation strategies.	»»»» »»»»»	The Audit Committee then assigns ongoing Board-level oversight responsibility for each material risk identified by the ERM Committee to either the full Board or the appropriate Board committee <sup>1</sup> . Presentations and other communications regarding each risk are made to the Board and/or applicable Board committee periodically during the year.	»»» »»»»»»»	The ERM Committee's annual risk assessment of the Company's overall compensation policies and practices is presented to the Compensation and Management Development Committee (Compensation Committee).

See pages 24 and 25 for a summary of our Board committees' areas of oversight, including risk oversight.



# ENGAGEMENT BY MANAGEMENT AND OUR BOARD WITH OUR STOCKHOLDERS

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#### **INVESTMENT COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Calls, meetings and other personal engagements

~60%/	′~42%
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#### **STOCKHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Percentage of Common Stock reached out to/spoken with, through calls, meetings and other personal engagements

87%	6
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#### ANNUAL MEETING ENGAGEMENT

Percentage of Common Stock represented by vote at the 2022 Annual Meeting

#### **Stockholder Engagement Overview**

Our Board and management value and rely upon our stockholders' perspectives. To help ensure we understand and focus on the priorities that matter most to our stockholders, our directors and senior management proactively conduct thorough and extensive investor outreach throughout the year. In addition to discussing business results and initiatives, strategy and capital structure, we engage with investors on various other matters integral to our business and the Company, such as governance practices, executive compensation and sustainability.

### Specific Ways We Engaged with Stockholders in 2022

In 2022, we contacted stockholders representing approximately 60% of our issued and outstanding shares and we were able to meet and engage directly, in person or telephonically, with stockholders representing approximately 42% of our outstanding shares. We hosted quarterly earnings calls available to all investors, including the analysts covering our Company who we invited to ask questions. We also engaged with the leading proxy advisors who serve our investors and presented at six industry conferences. Our independent directors continued to be closely and directly involved in our investor engagement efforts. Our Board and management carefully considered and evaluated feedback received during these meetings.

A key focus of our outreach was to continue our dialogue with investors regarding the Company's strategy, Environmental, Social and Governance disclosures, and Compensation alignment with stockholders. This is discussed in more detail below and in the CD&A section.

Stockholders and other interested parties who would like to communicate with one or more members of the Board, a Board committee, the Non-Executive Chair of the Board or the independent non-management directors as a group may do so by writing to any such party at RYAM, c/o Corporate Secretary, 1301 Riverplace Boulevard, Suite 2300, Jacksonville, Florida 32207. All communications received will be forwarded to the intended recipient(s).

## STANDARD OF ETHICS AND CODE OF CORPORATE CONDUCT

The Company's Standard of Ethics and Code of Corporate Conduct (Code of Conduct) is available on the Company's website at www.RYAM.com at the "Investors" tab under "Corporate Governance". Any waivers or amendments to the Code of Conduct will also be available on the Company's website.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE (ESG)**

RYAM's commitment to ESG is closely aligned with our vision to further enhance and leverage our sustainable business model and deliver on the promise of our BioFuture – transforming renewable materials into remarkable products to help meet the ever-growing global demand for customized high performing, sustainable materials.

To demonstrate this commitment and ensure appropriately focused oversight of ESG matters most critical to our business and stakeholders, our Board created a Sustainability Committee in 2021. This Committee is chaired by our Non-Executive Chair.

The Sustainability Committee's primary areas of oversight include Environmental Stewardship, Diversity and Inclusion, and Health and Safety. Working closely with our executive leadership, our Sustainability and External Affairs Director, and members of our management-led Sustainability Council, the Sustainability Committee helps ensure the Company is driving, tracking and measuring progress in these key focus areas. Oversight of other ESG focus areas fall specifically within the scope of the charters of our other Board committees.





40% Reduction in Scope 1 & 2 Emissions, Absolute and Intensity, by 2030 compared to 2020 Baseline

Significant progress continues to be made on various initiatives overseen by the Sustainability Committee, as detailed in our recently published 2022 Environmental, Social and Governance Progress Update Among other things, the report highlights the Company's progress with respect to its goal to reduce by 40 percent its overall Scope 1 and Scope 2 (aggregated) Greenhouse Gas Emissions, on both an absolute and intensity basis, by 2030, using 2020 as a baseline year.

We invite you to read our 2022 Environmental, Social and Governance Progress Update which can be found on our Company website at the following address: https://RYAM.com/sustainability/2022-esg-report/

The information on our website, including our 2022 Environmental, Social and Governance Progress Update, is not part of, and is not incorporated by reference into, this Proxy Statement.



## **DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

The Company uses a combination of cash and stock-based incentive compensation to attract and retain qualified candidates to serve on the Board. In setting director compensation, the Board considers the significant time commitment and the skills and experience level necessary for directors to fulfill their duties.

The Nominating Committee's annual compensation review includes a periodic analysis of data, comparing the Company's director compensation levels against a peer group of publicly held companies. Frederick W. Cook & Co., Inc. (F. W. Cook), the Board's independent compensation consultant, provides the Nominating Committee with advice and recommendations on the composition of the peer group (the same peer group used by our Compensation Committee for executive compensation benchmarking purposes, as discussed in the CD&A) and broad market survey data used for benchmarking our director compensation program. The Nominating Committee uses the information provided by F. W. Cook, as well as other data, to reach its recommendation regarding compensation to be paid to our directors. The Nominating Committee's recommendation is then provided to the full Board for review and final approval.

Our directors are subject to minimum stock ownership and stock retention requirements, as discussed in the Director Mandatory Stock Ownership and Retention Requirements section below.

### 2022/2023 Cash Compensation

Non-management director compensation is set by the Board after considering the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. For the twelve-month 2022-2023 director compensation period, which ends with the 2023 Annual Meeting, each non-management director receives the following cash compensation (which is prorated for partial year service):

- » Annual cash retainer of \$85,000, payable in equal quarterly installments
- » Additional annual cash retainers of \$20,000 for the Audit Committee Chair, and \$15,000 for each of the Compensation, Finance, Nominating and Sustainability Committee Chairs, payable in equal quarterly installments. No such additional retainer is payable to the Sustainability Committee Chair when such position is held by the then-current Non-Executive Chair of the Board; and
- » Additional annual cash retainer for the Non-Executive Chair of the Board of \$100,000, payable in equal quarterly installments

### **Annual Equity Awards**

For the 2022-2023 period, on or about May 17, 2022, each non-management director (including De Lyle Bloomquist who was a non-management director at that time) received a restricted stock unit (RSU) award equivalent to \$115,000 based on grant date fair value (which is prorated for partial year service), to vest on May 17, 2023 if the director has not voluntarily left the Board prior to such date (other than due to the director's death or disability or in the event of other extraordinary circumstances as determined by the Nominating Committee).

Dividends (if any) on the RSU award accrue in a separate account and are paid upon vesting, together with interest thereon at a rate equal to the Prime Rate as reported in *The Wall Street Journal*, adjusted and compounded annually as of each December 31 (the Prime Rate).

### Annual Limit on Director Equity Awards and Cash Compensation

Our current Equity Incentive Stock Plan caps annual equity awards together with cash compensation to each director at not more than \$300,000 per year.

### **Cash Fees Deferral Plan**

Directors may defer up to 100% of their cash compensation. Any deferred amounts are paid to the director in a single lump sum on the later of the date the director turns 74, the conclusion of the director's term, or upon termination as a director, if prior to age 74. Any deferred amounts earn interest at a rate equal to the Prime Rate.

### **Director Mandatory Stock Ownership and Retention Requirements**

Each of our directors having served on the Board for five years or more, is required to own Company stock valued at not less than the cash portion of his or her annual retainer for the previous five years. Prior to reaching their ownership requirement, a director is required to hold all Company shares received under his or her annual equity retainer. As of March 15, 2023, each of our directors is in compliance with our stock ownership and retention guidelines.

#### **2022 Director Compensation Table**

The following table provides compensation information for the one-year period ended December 31, 2022, for all individuals serving on our Board at any time from January 1, 2022, until December 31, 2022.

NAME	FEES EARNED OR PAID IN CASH (\$)	STOCK AWARDS (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	ALL OTHER COMPENSATION (\$)	TOTAL (\$)
Charles E. Adair	105,000	115,003 <sup>(2)</sup>	-	220,003
De Lyle W. Bloomquist <sup>(3)</sup>	47,582	115,003(2)	-	162,585
Paul G. Boynton <sup>(4)</sup>	-	-	-	-
Vito J. Consiglio <sup>(5)</sup>	-	-	-	-
Julie A. Dill	100,000	115,003(2)	-	215,003
Charles R. Eggert	27,538	66,165 <sup>(6)</sup>	-	93,703
James F. Kirsch	100,000	115,003(2)	-	215,003
David C. Mariano	85,000	115,003(2)	-	200,003
Thomas I. Morgan	85,000	115,003(2)	-	200,003
Lisa M. Palumbo	161,415	115,003(2)	_	276,418
Ivona Smith	95,838	115,003(2)	_	210,841

(1) Represents the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board's (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 718. A discussion of the assumptions used in calculating these values may be found in Note 16 Incentive Stock Plans included in the notes to consolidated financial statements in our 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

(2) On May 17, 2022, each non-management director (except Mr. Eggert) was granted a restricted stock unit award equivalent to \$115,003 which, based on grant date value (\$5.20), corresponded to 22,116 restricted stock units, for a total award of \$115,003.20 after rounding (because the Company does not issue fractional shares for director equity awards). The aggregate number of restricted stock units outstanding on December 31, 2022 for each of Ms. Dill, Ms. Palumbo, Ms. Smith and Messrs. Adair, Bloomquist, Kirsch, Mariano and Morgan was 22,116.

(3) Mr. Bloomquist was compensated for service as a director until May 28, 2022. On May 29, 2022 Mr. Bloomquist became an executive officer of the Company and was no longer compensated for service as a director. See the Summary Compensation Table for compensation information relating to Mr. Bloomquist from May 29-December 31, 2022.

(4) Mr. Boynton was not compensated for his service as a director. However, as an employee of the Company from January 1-June 30, 2022, Mr. Boynton received the following compensation during 2022: \$517,500 of salary; \$4,491,469 related to stock awards; \$1,459,400 for non-equity incentive award; \$24,194 for tax services reimbursement; \$12,200 of 401(k) company match; \$55,731 for unused vacation; and \$11,518 of other compensation.

In addition, following Mr. Boynton's retirement from the Company, he received \$517,500 cash compensation, pursuant to the Separation and Release Agreement (filed with the SEC on January 20, 2022 as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K), for his role as a consultant to the Company for the period July 1-December 31, 2022.

- (5) Mr. Consiglio, as an executive officer of the Company from January 1-May 28, 2022, was not compensated for his service as a director. See the Summary Compensation Table for compensation information relating to Mr. Consiglio during 2022.
- (6) On October 19, 2022, Mr. Eggert was granted a restricted stock unit award equivalent to \$66,165 which, based on grant date value (\$3.34), corresponded to 19,810 restricted stock units, for a total award of \$66,165.40 after rounding (because the Company does not issue fractional shares for director equity awards). The aggregate number of restricted stock units outstanding on December 31, 2022 for Mr. Eggert was 19,810.



## **ANTI-HEDGING/ANTI-PLEDGING POLICY**

We have adopted a stringent anti-hedging and anti-pledging policy that applies to all (1) employees of the Company who are officers, (2) directors and (3) immediate family members of employees who are officers and directors and other members of their households, as well as entities controlled by any of them. Under our policy, the Company may also designate, from time to time, in our discretion, other key employees to be subject to our anti-hedging policy.

The policy precludes all hedging or other offsetting of any potential decrease in the market value of the Company's equity securities as well as pledging of Company securities. Although not limited to these specific types of transactions, under the Company's policy the following are specifically prohibited:

- » Short sales
- » Trading in options
- » Hedging transactions of all types, including the use of financial instruments such as prepaid variable forwards, equity swaps, collars and exchange funds
- » Pledges of Company securities, such as collateral for margin loans or margin accounts
- » Standing or limit orders, unless under a Rule 10b5-1 plan that meets all requirements of the Company's applicable policy and is approved by the Company's Corporate Secretary

## **RELATED PERSON TRANSACTIONS**

Our Board has adopted a written policy designed to minimize potential conflicts of interest in connection with Company transactions with related persons. Our policy defines a "Related Person" to include any director, executive officer or person owning more than five percent of the Company's stock, any of their immediate family members and any entity with which any of the foregoing persons are employed or affiliated. A "Related Person Transaction" is defined as a transaction, arrangement or relationship in which the Company is a participant, the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and a Related Person has or will have a direct or indirect material interest.

To implement the policy, each year a Related Person list is compiled based on information obtained from our annual Director and Officer Questionnaires and, after review and consolidation by our Corporate Secretary, is provided to business unit, accounts payable, accounts receivable, financial, legal and communications managers and other persons responsible for purchasing or selling goods or services for the Company. Prior to entering into any transaction with a Related Person, the manager responsible for the potential transaction, or the Related Person, must provide notice to the Corporate Secretary setting out the facts and circumstances of the proposed transaction. If the Corporate Secretary determines the transaction would constitute a Related Person Transaction, it is then submitted for consideration by the Audit Committee, which will approve only those transactions determined to be in, or not inconsistent with, the best interests of the Company and its stockholders. In reviewing Related Person Transactions, the Audit Committee considers:

- » The Related Person's relationship to the Company and interest in any transaction with the Company
- » The material terms of a transaction with the Company, including the type and amount
- » The benefits to the Company of any proposed or actual transaction
- » The availability of other sources of comparable products and services that are part of a transaction with the Company; and
- » If applicable, the impact on a director's independence

In the event we become aware of a completed or ongoing Related Person Transaction that has not been previously approved, it is promptly submitted to the Audit Committee for evaluation and, if deemed appropriate, ratification.

In addition, each year the persons and entities identified as Related Persons are matched against the Company's accounts payable and accounts receivable records to determine whether any Related Person participated in a transaction with the Company, regardless of the amount involved. A report of all such transactions is prepared by the Corporate Secretary and reviewed with the Audit Committee to determine if any would constitute a Related Person Transaction under our policy or would require Proxy Statement disclosure under applicable SEC rules and regulations. After conclusion of this process, the Audit Committee did not identify any Related Person Transactions occurring in 2022 that would require Proxy Statement disclosure.



# **Proposal 1- Election of Directors**

Our Board is responsible for establishing overall corporate policy and for overseeing management and the ultimate performance of the Company. Our Board reviews strategy and significant developments affecting the Company and acts on matters requiring Board approval. Our Board held 10 meetings during 2022 and each director attended at least 75% of the combined total of all (i) Board meetings and (ii) meetings of committees of the Board of which the director was a member during his or her tenure as a Board member, except Mr. Eggert who was elected to the Board effective October 19, 2022 and only had the opportunity to attend one Board meeting and two Committee meetings, one of which he was unable to attend due to a previous commitment he had prior to joining the RYAM Board.

Our Board currently consists of nine directors divided into three classes (I, II and III) serving staggered three-year terms. Directors for each class will be voted on at the annual meeting of stockholders held in the year in which the term for that class expires and after election, will serve for a term of three years. The terms of the Class I directors will expire at the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, the terms of the Class II directors will expire at the 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the terms of the Class III directors are set to expire at the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are nominees for election at such Annual Meeting).

Accordingly, stockholders are being asked to vote on the election of the three Class III directors, each to serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified at the 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Each of the nominees has consented to stand for election. Our Board has no reason to believe any nominee will be unable to serve as a director. If, however, a nominee should be unable to serve at the time of the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, Common Stock properly represented by valid proxies will be voted for a substitute nominee nominated by the Board. Alternatively, our Board may either allow the vacancy to remain unfilled until an appropriate candidate is located or may reduce the authorized number of directors on our Board to eliminate the unfilled seat.

If any incumbent nominee for director should fail to receive the required affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast with regard to his or her election, then under Delaware law (the Company's state of incorporation) the director would remain in office as a holdover director until a successor is elected or the director resigns, retires or is otherwise removed. In such a situation, our CGPs require the director to tender his or her resignation to our Board. The Nominating Committee would then consider such resignation and make a recommendation to our Board as to whether to accept or decline the resignation. Our Board would then make a determination and publicly disclose its decision and rationale within 90 days after receipt of the tendered resignation.

## **DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS**

In identifying and evaluating potential nominees, our Nominating Committee seeks individuals who have the experience, skills, knowledge, expertise and personal and professional integrity to be effective, in conjunction with our other Board members, in collectively serving the long-term interests of our stockholders. Criteria for Board membership is periodically evaluated by the Nominating Committee taking into account the Company's strategy, objectives, markets, operations, regulatory environment and other relevant factors, as well as change, if any, in applicable laws and NYSE listing standards.

We believe the members of our Board have the optimal mix of relevant and diverse experience, qualifications, attributes and skills given the Company's business, together with demonstrated integrity, judgement, leadership and collegiality, to effectively advise and oversee management in executing our strategy.

Each of the directors listed below, including the three nominees for election, has experience as a senior executive and is serving or has served as a director of one or more private or public companies and on a variety of board committees. As such, each has experience in many of the following areas, which are critical to the conduct of the

Company's business: strategy development and implementation; global operations; risk assessment and management; accounting and financial reporting; internal controls; capital markets and corporate finance; the evaluation, compensation, motivation and retention of senior executive talent; public policy as it impacts global industrial companies; compliance program oversight; and corporate governance. Many of the directors also bring insights into specific end-markets and geographic regions that are important to the Company. Our directors collectively provide a range of perspectives, experiences and competencies well-suited to providing advice and counsel to management and to overseeing the Company's business and operations. See the Director Skills and Experience Matrix.

A biography of each member of the Company's Board, including the three nominees for election, is set forth below, along with a statement of each director's qualifications to serve on the Board.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "**FOR**" each of its three nominees named below for election to the Board of Directors for a term to expire at the 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.



### **BIOGRAPHICAL AND QUALIFICATIONS INFORMATION OF THE THREE NOMINEES FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### Class III, Terms to Expire in 2026, if Re-elected



### DE LYLE W. BLOOMQUIST

**AGE:** 64

Mr. Bloomguist is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, a position he has held since May 28, 2022. He is also a partner for Windrunner Management Advisors LLC (a management advisory services business). He retired in March 2015 as President, Global Chemical Business of Tata Chemicals Limited (an international inorganic chemical and fertilizer manufacturing company), a position he held since 2009. Previously, he served as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of General Chemical Industrial Products Inc. (which was acquired by Tata Chemicals Limited in 2008) from 2004 to 2009. Prior to that, Mr. Bloomquist served at General Chemical Group Inc. in positions of increasing responsibility from 1991 to 2004, including Division Vice President and General Manager, Industrial Chemicals and Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Bloomguist serves on the Board of Directors of Sisecam Wyoming LLC (f/k/a Ciner Wyoming LLC) and Evog Nano, Inc. He is currently a partner for Ranch Estates LLC (a real estate developer) and WC Tucson I LLC (a real estate developer). Mr. Bloomguist also served as a director of Crystal Peak Minerals (f/k/a EPM Mining Ventures Inc. from October 2011 to November 2021, PDS Biotechnology Corporation (f/k/a Edge Therapeutics Inc.) from December 2006 to March 2019, Scientia Vascular LLC from October 2017 to May 2021, Huber Engineered Materials from July 2010 to November 2020, Vivos Therapeautics Inc., from April 2018 to March 2019, and Costa Farms, Inc. from July 2016 to July 2017. He also serves on the Board of Business Advisors for the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University and on the Board of Advisors for Sonoran Capital. Mr. Bloomquist is a graduate of Brigham Young University and holds an MBA from Carnegie Mellon University.

#### DIRECTOR SINCE: 2014

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

As a result of Mr. Bloomquist's service as the Company's President and CEO and his over 25 years of domestic and international experience in the chemicals, minerals and materials industries, including in the areas of finance, sales, logistics, operations, IT, strategy and business development, as well as CEO and other senior leadership experience, he has developed valuable business, management and leadership experience. We believe Mr. Bloomquist's depth and breadth of experience and expertise in these industries makes him particularly well-suited to help lead the Board's consideration of operational and strategic decisions and manage the Company's business.



## CHARLES R. EGGERT

Mr. Eggert has been an Operating Partner at iSelect Fund Management, a venture capital firm focused on early-stage agriculture, food, nutrition, and wellness growth companies, since 2019. Prior to this, Mr. Eggert served as an Operating Partner for Arsenal Capital Partners, a lower middle market private equity firm specializing in building value for specialty chemical and healthcare service companies from 2016 to 2019. He also served as a Board member at Arsenal portfolio companies Spartech LLC, Chroma Color Corporation, and Meridian Adhesives Group. Mr. Eggert served as President and CEO of Solvaira Specialties, one of Arsenal's portfolio companies. He also served six years as CEO and a member of the Board of Directors of the renewable chemicals company OPX Biotechnologies, Inc. From 2004 to 2008, Mr. Eggert held several positions at the National Starch and Chemical business of ICI PLC including Group Vice President, Specialty Polymers. From 1977 to 1997, he held roles with increasing responsibility at Monsanto Company in R&D, manufacturing, business development, and marketing. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of CP Kelco. Mr. Eggert graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with an MBA in Marketing and Finance. He holds a master's degree in Biochemical Engineering from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Washington University.

#### DIRECTOR SINCE: 2022

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

**AGE:** 69

With his impressive track record of driving growth through strategic leadership and operational transformation in the global specialty chemicals and food ingredients industries, including in a venture capital role of identifying investments and developing value creation strategies for early-stage companies, we believe Mr. Eggert's is uniquely gualified to contribute to the Board's oversight of the Company's innovation, new products and business development efforts as the Company looks to execute its BioFuture strategy.





## DAVID C. MARIANO

Mr. Mariano is currently the Managing Director of DCM Capital, a private investment firm with holdings in the equity and debt of public and private companies, a position he has held since founding DCM in 2011. From 1998 to 2011, Mr. Mariano was Managing Partner of Wellspring Capital Management, a registered investment advisor focusing on turnaround and restructuring opportunities in a range of industries and served as Executive Chairman of the Board of Neucel Specialty Cellulose, a manufacturer and seller of dissolving wood pulp products, including high purity specialty cellulose and viscose pulps, from 2006 to 2011. Mr. Mariano was also a Managing Director at the Blackstone Group and a Senior Manager at Ernst & Young. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Gustavus Adolphus College and an MBA from Duke University.

#### DIRECTOR SINCE: 2020

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

Mr. Mariano has 35 years of experience investing in, managing and advising global businesses, with a focus over the past 17 years in the dissolving wood pulp industry, as well as significant experience in capital markets, restructurings and value-creating transactions. He is also a significant stockholder of the Company, currently holding approximately 1.33% of the Company's Common Stock.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL AND QUALIFICATIONS INFORMATION OF OTHER DIRECTORS**

#### Class I, Terms to Expire in 2024



### **CHARLES E. ADAIR**

Mr. Adair has been the President of Kowaliga Capital, Inc., an investment company, since 1993. Mr. Adair previously worked for Durr-Fillauer Medical, Inc. where he served in various capacities including President and Chief Operating Officer from 1973 to 1992. Mr. Adair served on the Board of Directors of Globe Life Inc. from 2003 until his retirement in April 2022. Mr. Adair also served on the Board of Directors of Tech Data Corporation (TECD) from 1995 through June 2020 when TECD was acquired by Apollo Global Management, Inc. and PSS World Medical, Inc. (PSS), from 2002 through February 2013 when PSS was acquired by McKesson Corp. Mr. Adair is a Certified Public Accountant (inactive) and holds a B.S. degree in Accounting from the University of Alabama and is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program from Harvard University.

#### **AGE:** 75

**AGE:** 60

#### DIRECTOR SINCE: 2015

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

Mr. Adair brings significant experience in public company governance as a director, financial management and accounting, as well as extensive distribution and global supply chain expertise. As a result, we believe he is particularly well-suited to contribute to Board oversight of the Company's governance and overall financial performance, auditing and its external auditors and controls over financial reporting.



## JULIE A. DILL

Ms. Dill most recently served as the Chief Communications Officer for Spectra Energy Corp. (Spectra) (which operated in three key areas of the natural gas industry: transmission and storage, distribution, and gathering and processing) from 2013 until Spectra's merger with Enbridge, Inc. in February 2017. She previously served as the Group Vice President of Strategy for Spectra and the President and CEO of Spectra Energy Partners, LP (NYSE: SEP) from 2012 until 2013 and prior to that served as President of Union Gas Limited from 2007 until 2011. Previously, Ms. Dill served in various financial and operational roles with Duke Energy, Duke Energy International and Shell Oil Company. She serves on the Board of Directors of Sterling Infrastructure, Inc. and Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline and is on the advisory board of Centuri, a subsidiary of Southwest Gas Holdings. Ms. Dill serves on the Board of Directors of the Tri-Cities Chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors, is a member of the Advisory Council for the College of Business and Economics at New Mexico State University and sits on the Community Relations Committee of the Health System Board of Memorial Hermann Hospital. Previously, she sat on the Board of Directors of QEP Resources, Inc., from 2013 to March 2021, InterPipeline Ltd., from 2018 to August 2021, and Spectra Energy Partners, LP from 2012 to February 2017. Ms. Dill holds a B.B.A. from New Mexico State University, is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program from Harvard University and has received her NACD Directorship Certification.

#### AGE: 63

### DIRECTOR SINCE: 2018

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

As a result of Ms. Dill's experience as the President and CEO of a publiclytraded energy company, her strong financial background, investor relations and communications experience and her more than 35 years of experience in the energy industry, including in Canada, we believe she provides valuable insight and knowledge to our Board's oversight of the Company's internal operations, investor relations and communications strategies.





## JAMES F. KIRSCH

Mr. Kirsch served as the Chairman, President and CEO of Ferro Corporation (a leading producer of specialty materials and chemicals) from 2006 to 2012. He joined Ferro in October 2004 as its President and Chief Operating Officer, was appointed CEO and Director in November 2005 and was elected Chairman in December 2006. Prior to that, from 2002 through 2004, he served as President of Quantum Composites, Inc. (a manufacturer of thermoset molding compounds, parts and sub-assemblies for the automotive, aerospace, electrical and HVAC industries). From 1999 through 2002, he served as President and a director of Ballard Generation Systems, Inc. and Vice President for Ballard Power Systems Inc. in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada. Mr. Kirsch began his career with The Dow Chemical Company, where he spent 19 years and held various positions of increasing responsibility, including global business director of Propylene Oxide and Derivatives and Global Vice President of Electrochemicals. Mr. Kirsch formerly served as a director of GCP Applied Technologies Inc. from 2018 to 2020, as a director of Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc., formerly known as Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc. from March 2010 to August 2014 and as the Executive Chairman from January 2014 to August 2014. He is a graduate of The Ohio State University.

#### AGE: 65 DIRECTOR SINCE: 2014

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

Mr. Kirsch brings a wealth of senior management experience with major organizations with international operations and has substantial experience in the areas of specialty materials and chemicals. As a former chairman, president and CEO of a NYSE-listed company, he brings considerable senior leadership experience to our Board and the committees thereof on which he serves.

#### Class II, Terms to Expire in 2025

Tennessee.



### THOMAS I. MORGAN

Mr. Morgan was formerly a Senior Advisor to AEA

Investors LP (a New York private equity firm) from January

2015 to September 2022. Prior to AEA Investors LP, he was

a partner and Lead Director of the Advisory Board of BPV

mutual funds) from April 2013 to May 2016. Mr. Morgan

January 2014 and served as the CEO from 2008 to 2012.

Mr. Morgan also served as the CEO of Hughes Supply Inc.

(a diversified wholesale distributor of construction, repair

and maintenance-related products) from 2003 to 2006, as President from 2001 to 2006 and as Chief Operating Officer from 2001 to 2003. Previously, he served as CEO of Enfotrust Networks, LLC, Value America, Inc. and US Office Products Co. He also served for 22 years at Genuine Parts Company in positions of increasing responsibility from 1975 to 1997. Mr. Morgan serves on the Advisory Board of Pavement Partners. He formerly served as a director of Tech Data Corporation (2007 to 2020), ITT Educational Services, Inc. (January 2013 to September 2016), Rayonier Inc. (January 2012 to June 2014), Baker & Taylor, Inc. and Waste Management, Inc. Mr. Morgan holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of

leading distributor of books, videos and music products to

Capital Management LLC (an investment manager of

also served as the Chairman of Baker & Taylor, Inc. (a

libraries, institutions and retailers) from July 2008 to

**AGE:** 69

#### DIRECTOR SINCE: 2014

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

Mr. Morgan brings both public and private company leadership and public company CEO experience and a deep understanding of distribution and global supply chain management. As a result, we believe he is particularly well-suited to contribute to Board oversight of overall management and governance issues and our global high-purity cellulose business.

RYAM



## LISA M. PALUMBO

Ms. Palumbo served as the Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Parsons Brinckerhoff Group Inc. (a global consulting firm providing planning, design, construction and program management services for critical infrastructure projects) from 2008 until her retirement in January 2015. Prior to that, Ms. Palumbo served as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of EDO Corporation (a defense technology company) from 2002 to 2008. In 2001, Ms. Palumbo served as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Moore Corporation; from 1997 to 2001 she served as Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Rayonier Inc. and from 1987 to 1997 she served in positions of increasing responsibility, including Assistant General Counsel and Assistant Secretary for Avnet, Inc. (a global distributor of technology products). Ms. Palumbo holds bachelor's and juris doctorate degrees from Rutgers University.

#### DIRECTOR SINCE: 2014

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

With over 28 years of legal experience with international, public and private companies, Ms. Palumbo brings substantial expertise in the areas of law, corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, enterprise risk management, health and safety and compliance. We believe this experience and expertise, together with her prior experience as the General Counsel of Rayonier Inc., uniquely qualify her to contribute to our Board regarding the Company's business and to assist with our Board's oversight of the Company's risk management, legal and compliance responsibilities.



### IVONA SMITH

Ms. Smith is an advisor with Drivetrain LLC, an independent fiduciary services firm, a position she has held since 2016. Prior to joining Drivetrain LLC, she was Managing Director at Fair Oaks Capital LP, an investment advisory firm, from 2014 to 2016, Co-Founder of Restoration Capital Management LLC, an investment advisory firm from 2001-2012 and Co-Portfolio Manager at Tribeca Investments, LLC, the broker/dealer division of Citigroup/Traveler's from 1999 to 2000. Ms. Smith was also an auditor, analyst and financial consultant at various accounting and investment banking firms, including Kidder Peabody and Ernst & Young. Ms. Smith formerly served on the Boards of ITN Networks LLC (2017 to 2018) and The Weinstein Company (2018 to 2021 during its winddown), among others. Ms. Smith holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Fordham University and an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business.

#### **AGE:** 53

**AGE:** 65

## DIRECTOR SINCE: 2020

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

Ms. Smith brings significant financial, capital markets, restructuring and accounting experience, working extensively with senior management teams and as a fiduciary to the investment community, including serving as an outside independent director for companies. Additionally, she has over 25 years of experience investing in or advising companies undergoing operational or financial challenges. Ms. Smith is particularly well-suited to contribute to the Board's oversight of the Company's capital structure, financial performance, auditing and its external auditors and controls over financial reporting.

## DIRECTOR SKILLS, EXPERIENCE AND DIVERSITY MATRIX

The table below shows the skills, experience and diversity that each director brings to the Board.

			BLOOMOUIST DILL EGGERT KIRSCH							
	ADAIR	ON	20 20	FOOFR	WIRSCH	MARIA	NO MORC	AN PALUS	NBO	
SKILLS/EXPERIENCE	ADr	St	DILL	fc0	KIR.	MAX	MO.	PAL	5	
CURRENT OR PAST CEO		>	>	*	>		>			
OTHER PUBLIC COMPANY BOARD SERVICE	>	»	>		>	>	>		>	
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND INTERNAL CONTROLS	*	>	>		*		>		>	
CAPITAL MARKETS AND FINANCE	*	»		>	>	>	>		>	
INNOVATION/NEW PRODUCTS		*		*						
INTERNATIONAL/ GLOBAL TRADE	*	<b>»</b>	>	*	>	>	>	>		
INVESTOR RELATIONS/ COMMUNICATIONS			>						>	
FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, INCLUDING DISSOLVING WOOD PULP		*				<b>»</b>	>	>		
MATERIALS AND CHEMICALS INDUSTRY		>		*	*	*				
MANUFACTURING/ DISTRIBUTION	>	>	>	*	>	*	>	>		
GOVERNMENT/LEGAL/ REGULATORY			>					»		
DEMOGRAPHICS										
RACE/ETHNICITY										
American Indian or Alaska Native										
Asian						>				
Black or African American										
Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin										
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander						>				
White/Caucasian	>	>	>	>	>		>	>	>	
GENDER										
Male	>	>		>	>	>	>			
Female			>					>	>	



## **DIRECTOR NOMINATION PROCESS**

Potential director candidates may come to the attention of the Nominating Committee through current directors, management, business leaders, stockholders and others. The Nominating Committee also has, from time to time, utilized independent third-party search firms to identify potential director candidates and may do so in the future. Our Nominating Committee will consider director nominees submitted by stockholders based on the same criteria used in evaluating candidates for Board membership identified from any other source. The directions for stockholders to submit director nominations for the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are set forth in Appendix A under When Are Stockholder Proposals for the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders Due?

## FORMAL DIRECTOR ONBOARDING PROCESS

Upon joining the Board, new directors receive a comprehensive orientation and formal onboarding process to facilitate their transition onto the Board. Our onboarding process familiarizes new directors with the Company's businesses, strategic plans, governance program, Board policies and the director's responsibilities on assigned Board committees. New directors hold meetings with the Company's senior leadership and key management team members to learn about the Company and its opportunities, challenges and risks and participate in site visits to learn about our manufacturing, quality and supply chain operations. Based on feedback received, we believe this onboarding program, coupled with participation in regular Board and Board committee meetings, provides new directors with a strong foundation in our Company's business and accelerates their ability to fully engage in Board discussions.

## DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE AT ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Directors are encouraged to attend each Annual Meeting of Stockholders. At the 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, all directors were in attendance except Ms. Smith.

## **COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board has five standing committees, each of which operates under a written charter available on the Company's website at www.RYAM.com at the "Investors" tab under "Corporate Governance".

## AUDIT

# This committee advises the Board and oversees our accounting and financial reporting policies, processes and systems, as well as our systems for internal control, including:

- » overseeing financial reporting, controls and audit performance
- » monitoring and oversight of the independence and performance of our independent registered public accounting firm, with responsibility for such firm's selection, evaluation, compensation and, if applicable, discharge
- » approving, in advance, all of the audit and non-audit services provided to the Company by the independent registered public accounting firm
- » facilitating open communication among the Board, senior management, internal audit and the independent registered public accounting firm
- » overseeing our enterprise risk management, cybersecurity and legal compliance and ethics programs, including our Standard of Ethics and Code of Corporate Conduct

## COMPENSATION AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2022: 7

## This committee oversees the compensation and benefits of senior-level employees, including:

- » evaluating senior management performance, succession planning and development matters
- » establishing executive compensation
- » reviewing and approving the Compensation Discussion and Analysis included in the annual Proxy Statement
- » recommending compensation actions regarding our CEO for approval by non-management directors of the Board
- » approving individual compensation actions for all senior executives other than our CEO

## FINANCE AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

## This committee advises the Board with regard to capital strategy, financial matters and strategic planning, including:

- » reviewing the Company's capital structure and capital allocation priorities, policies and guidelines
- » advising management with respect to development of the Company's strategic planning process
- » providing review and oversight with respect to significant financings and banking relationships
- » reviewing and recommending the registration, issuance and redemption of Company equity securities and evaluating the Company's dividend policy
- » overseeing the financial performance of the assets invested in our pension and savings plans and reviewing employee benefits
- » ensuring robust focus on growth through innovation and new products
- » providing oversight with respect to the Company's tax strategy, hedging policies and financial aspects of insurance program

#### NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2022: 9

#### **CURRENT MEMBERS:**

Charles E. Adair, Chair Charles R. Eggert James F. Kirsch David C. Mariano

#### NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2022: 7

#### **CURRENT MEMBERS:**

**CURRENT MEMBERS:** 

Julie A. Dill, Chair Charles E. Adair

Thomas I. Morgan

Lisa M. Palumbo

James F. Kirsch, Chair De Lyle W. Bloomquist David C. Mariano Ivona Smith



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## NOMINATING AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

## This committee advises the Board with regard to Board structure, composition and governance, including:

- » establishing criteria for Board nominees and identifying qualified individuals for nomination to become Board members, including engaging advisors to assist in the search process where appropriate and considering potential nominees recommended by stockholders
- » recommending the structure and composition of Board committees
- » overseeing evaluation of Board and committee effectiveness
- » recommending director compensation and benefits programs to the Board
- » overseeing our corporate governance structure and practices, including our CGPs
- » reviewing and approving changes to the charters of the other Board committees

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

## This committee advises the Board with regard to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) matters, including:

- » overseeing the Company's environmental sustainability initiatives, performance and targets
- » overseeing the Company's strategy and performance with respect to social matters including health and safety, and diversity and inclusion
- » providing input to management on and overseeing the Company's identification, assessment and management of risks associated with the environmental and social matters
- » reviewing the Company's Sustainability Report and other ESG-related disclosures such as climate-related metrics and targets
- » engaging with and monitoring feedback and expectations of key investors, advisors and other stakeholders with respect to ESG topics

# The Nominating Committee and Board annually review the Company's committee structure and may make changes in accordance with best governance practices, the optimal operation of the Board and the best interests of the Company and its stockholders.

#### NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2022: 3

#### **CURRENT MEMBERS:**

Lisa M. Palumbo, Chair Charles R. Eggert David C. Mariano

NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2022: 5

#### **CURRENT MEMBERS:**

Ivona Smith, Chair Julie A. Dill Thomas I. Morgan

# Proposal 2 – Approval of Amendment to Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to Declassify the Board of Directors

The Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the Certificate of Incorporation) provides for a classified board of directors divided into three classes of directors, with each class elected for staggered three-year terms. This structure was put in place by the Company's former parent company at the time of the spin-off of the Company in 2014, to provide the then-new Company with stability and continuity to deliberately develop and implement the best long-term, strategic course for the Company and create value over the long term.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board frequently review the Company's governance structure and practices. In 2018, 2019 and again in 2021, after considering the steps taken by the Company since the spin-off toward implementing the Company's strategy, dialogue with our stockholders, current best governance practices and the advantages and disadvantages of declassification, our Board determined it to be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to amend the Company's Certificate of Incorporation and our Amended and Restated Bylaws (the Bylaws) to declassify the Board. The Board's proposals to declassify the Board did not receive the required support in a vote at any of the 2019, 2020 or 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. As such, the Board is again asking our stockholders to approve a proposal to declassify our Board at the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation would eliminate the classification of the Board over a three-year period beginning at the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, with directors each elected to a one-year term following the expiration of their existing terms and provide for the annual election of all directors beginning at the 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. This proposal will not affect the existing terms of our directors, and the directors who are nominated for election at the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, will still be elected for three-year terms, even if the proposed amendment is approved.

The proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation would become effective upon the filing of a Certificate of Amendment with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, which the Company would file promptly following the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, if our stockholders approve the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment would not change the present number of directors or the Board's authority to change that number and to fill any vacancies or newly created directorships.

Delaware law provides that, unless otherwise addressed in the certificate of incorporation, members of a board of directors that is classified may be removed only for cause. The proposed amendment would provide that once the Company's Board is fully declassified as of the 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, directors may be removed with or without cause.

The proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation described in this proposal is attached to this Proxy Statement as Appendix B, which the Company would file promptly following the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders if our stockholders approve the proposed amendment. The affirmative vote of the holders of not less than 80% of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors on the Record Date is required to approve this proposed amendment pursuant to the Certificate of Incorporation. If our stockholders approve the proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation. If our stockholders approve the proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation. If our stockholders approve the proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" the management proposal to amend the Certificate of Incorporation to declassify the Board of Directors and allow for annual elections of directors.


# Proposal 3 – Approval of Amendment to Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to Eliminate the Supermajority Voting Provisions

The Company's Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws each require the affirmative vote of shares representing not less than 80% of the Company's outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (a Supermajority Vote), to alter, amend or repeal certain provisions of those documents.

Specifically, Article XIII of the Certificate of Incorporation provides that any alteration, amendment, or repeal of, or the adoption of any provision inconsistent with, the following provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, must be approved by a Supermajority Vote:

- » Issuance of preferred stock (Section 3 of Article IV of the Certificate of Incorporation);
- » Size, tenure, classes of directors, vacancies and director removal relating to the Board of Directors (Article VI);
- » Stockholder action, including written consents and special meetings (Article VII);
- » Indemnification of officers and directors (Article X); and
- » Amendments to the Certificate of Incorporation to change the Supermajority Voting Requirements (Article XIII).

In addition, Section 9.1 of the Bylaws provides that any alteration, amendment, or repeal of, or the adoption of any provision inconsistent with, the following provisions of the Bylaws, also must be approved by a Supermajority Vote:

- » Special meetings of stockholders and written consents by stockholders (Article II, Sections 2.2 and 2.13, respectively)
- » Board size and tenure, classes of directors, board vacancies, and director removal (Article III, Sections 3.2, 3.10 and 3.12, respectively)
- » Indemnification of directors and officers (Article VI); and
- » Amendments to the Bylaws (Article IX)

We refer to these requirements of the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws as the Supermajority Voting Provisions.

The Supermajority Voting Provisions were included in the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws by the Company's former parent company at the time of the spin-off of the Company in 2014, to provide the then-new entity with stability and continuity to deliberately develop and implement the best long-term, strategic course for the Company and create value over the long term.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board frequently review the Company's governance structure and practices. In 2018, 2019 and again in 2021, after considering the steps taken by the Company since the spin-off toward implementing the Company's strategy, dialogue with our stockholders, current best governance practices and the advantages and disadvantages of the Supermajority Voting Provisions, our Board determined it to be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to amend the Company's Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws to modify those provisions. The Board's proposal to amend the Company's Certificate of Incorporation to remove the Supermajority Voting Provisions did not receive the required support in a vote at any of the 2019, 2020 or 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

As such, the Board is again, asking our stockholders to approve a proposal to amend the Company's Certificate of Incorporation to remove the Supermajority Voting Provisions at the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. If the amendment is approved, future proposed amendments to the Certificate of Incorporation provisions summarized above will not be subject to a Supermajority Vote and will instead require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Company's outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors.

The proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation described in this proposal is attached to this Proxy Statement as Appendix C, which the Company would file promptly following the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders if our stockholders approve the amendment. The affirmative vote of the holders of not less than 80% of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors on the Record Date is required to approve this proposal pursuant to the Certificate of Incorporation. If our stockholders approve the proposed amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation, the Board will make certain conforming changes to the Company's Bylaws and CGPs.

> The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" the management proposal to amend the Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate Supermajority Voting Provisions.



# Proposal 4 – Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation

# A LETTER FROM OUR COMPENSATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dear Fellow Stockholders:

On behalf of the Compensation and Management Development Committee, I am pleased to present an overview of the Company's compensation programs and a description of how we continue to ensure our executive pay is well aligned with the performance of the Company.

In 2022, the Company had to navigate through not one, but two changes in the Chief Executive position. In January, Vito Consiglio was appointed as the CEO replacing Paul Boynton who retired at the end of 2021. However, in May 2022, the Board of Directors made the difficult decision to part ways with Mr. Consiglio and appoint De Lyle Bloomquist as our CEO. De Lyle has been a part of the Company for many years as a Board member, including serving as Chair. Because of his long history with RYAM, De Lyle was able to quickly take the helm, affirm the Company's strategy and advance our plans to deliver better than forecasted results.

On March 13, 2023, William R. Manzer informed management of his intention to retire as Executive Vice President, Manufacturing Operations of the Company, effective on May 31, 2023. We are pleased that Mr. Manzer will remain with the Company as a non-executive employee until March 31, 2024 to support the transition of his responsibilities and to finish a number of projects where he is significantly immersed. We wish Mr. Manzer all the best in retirement.

We know that our customers place a high value on the security of supply that comes from our unparalleled manufacturing capability along with our world-class technical marketing and research expertise. Consequently, the team focused on improving the reliability of our operations, managing on-going supply and logistic issues as well as addressing significant inflationary pressures. This contributed to RYAM reporting Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup> that was 39% higher than the same period in 2021 and the market responded with an increase in our share price during the year of 68%.

While many things at RYAM have changed over the course of the last year, our understanding of the importance of meaningful engagement with stockholders remains. Having a transparent and informed dialogue with them is an important element in assisting our Board in guiding the Company. We have made it a practice of reaching out to our stockholders to better understand their perspectives on compensation as well as ESG matters. Based on their feedback, we have made several changes to our executive compensation programs in recent years that have strengthened our alignment with our stockholders.

In the spring of 2022, investors told us they wanted management to have a continued focus on sustainability elements as well as better alignment between the peer group used to benchmark the Company and those used by the proxy advisors. In the fall of 2022, for purposes of discussing compensation practices, we reached out to the top 13 stockholders that represent approximately 60% of our outstanding shares. Of those institutions, we only received requests for a discussion with two parties which centered on our ESG efforts. A summary of key plan design changes in 2022 compared to 2021 include:

## A modification of the 2022 Annual Cash Incentive Program

For the 2022 Annual Cash Incentive Program, we reverted to using an annual Collared Business EBITDA, with an overall weighting of 60% after having split the year into two six-month cycles in the previous year.

#### Increased the long-term incentive plan's focus on share price improvement

We added a one-time program of 'Leveraged Performance Share Units' (LPUs) weighted at 20% of the overall award value which measure absolute share price achievement with no shares vesting unless a significant pre-determined share price hurdle is achieved.

The Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A) set forth in the following pages includes information relevant to your new 2023 vote. It describes our pay-for-performance framework and compensation philosophy and discusses how our executive compensation is aligned with the Company's performance as well as with your interests as our stockholders. We greatly value the conversations we have had and appreciate that this is an on-going dialogue, and we look forward to continuing the conversation before, at and after our 2023 Annual Meeting.

RYAM is proud to be part of your portfolio and we thank you for your continued support.

**JULIE A. DILL** Chair Compensation and Management Development Committee



# **ADVISORY RESOLUTION TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

As required by Section 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, this proposal seeks a stockholder advisory vote to approve the compensation of our NEOs pursuant to Item 402 of Regulation S-K through the following resolution:

#### Resolved, that stockholders approve, on an advisory basis, the Company's compensation of its Named Executive Officers as discussed and disclosed pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and any related material contained in the Proxy Statement for this meeting.

Because this is an advisory vote, it will not be binding upon the Board of Directors. However, the Compensation Committee will take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

We currently hold our advisory vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers (Say-on-Pay vote) annually. Stockholders have an opportunity to cast an advisory vote on the frequency of the Say-on-Pay vote at least every six years, and the next advisory vote on the frequency of the Say-on-Pay vote will be at our 2027 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" this advisory resolution to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers (NEOs) as disclosed in this Proxy Statement.

# **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

In this section, we describe our philosophy and the material elements of our executive compensation program and explain how our Compensation and Management Development Committee (the Committee or the Compensation Committee) makes compensation decisions, including the changes we made based on engagement with our stockholders in 2022.

Our named executive officers, or NEOs, for 2022 are listed below. In 2022, the Board of Directors made a difficult decision to terminate our short-tenured CEO, Vito J. Consiglio and replace him with our long-serving Director and Board Chair, De Lyle Bloomquist in late May 2022. Mr. Consiglio was provided severance associated with an involuntary termination without cause under the Executive Non-Change-in-Control Severance Plan. Therefore, Messrs. Bloomquist and Consiglio both appear in the compensation tables below.

De Lyle W. Bloomquist <sup>(1)</sup> Vito J. Consiglio (former)	Marcus J. Moeltner	William R. Manzer <sup>(2)</sup>	Joshua C. Hicks	James L. Posze, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer	Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President, Finance	Executive Vice President, Manufacturing Operations	Senior Vice President, High Purity Cellulose	Chief Administrative Officer and Senior Vice President, Human Resources

(1) Mr. Bloomquist was appointed to his position as President and Chief Executive Officer effective May 28, 2022.

(2) As previously reported in March 2023, Mr. Manzer notified the company that he will retire as Executive Vice President, Manufacturing Operations of the company effective May 31, 2023. Mr. Manzer will remain with the company as a non-executive employee until his retirement on March 31, 2024.

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## **Compensation Philosophy and Objectives**

The Company's compensation philosophy is to provide executives with a competitive compensation package that is heavily weighted towards performance-based and at-risk compensation in order to encourage superior business, stock price and financial performance over the short and longer term and to closely align the interests of the Company's NEOs with those of its stockholders. The Committee oversees the Company's executive compensation program.

#### The executive compensation program has four primary objectives:

- > Align executive compensation with our stockholders' interests
- > Attract, engage and retain key executive talent especially in the dynamic business environment
- > Reward strong business and individual performance
- Maintain a balanced mix of pay elements which focuses participants on creating sustainable long-term value for stockholders

# **Changes to 2022 Incentive Design**

In response to stockholder feedback, we slightly modified our 2022 Annual Cash Incentive Program and Equity Incentive Program to strengthen the alignment between executives and stockholders, including modifying our:

2022 Annual Cash Incentive Program

Reverted to using an annual Collared Business EBITDA, with an overall weighting of 60% after having split the year into two six-month cycles in the previous year with a cash flow metric weighted 20% for the financial objectives. A strategic metric weighted 20% of the total had seven



specific objectives that included key safety performance indicators, sustainability, business asset strategy execution, improving enterprise information technology systems, development and growth of the Company biomaterials strategy, innovation, and key people initiatives aligned to our long-term business strategy

2022 Equity Incentive Program

- One-time use Leveraged Performance Share Units (LPUs) weighted at 20% of the overall award value measuring absolute share price achievement, with no shares vesting unless a significant, predetermined stock price hurdle is achieved
- 2022 grants to NEOs were 70% performance-based (25% in Performance Share Units (PSUs), 25% in Performance Cash Units and 20% in LPUs) and 30% were time-based Restricted Stock Units (RSUs)
- Continued to measure our Total Shareholder Return (TSR) performance on a relative basis which aligned with market practice
- > Continued a cap on payouts if our absolute TSR is negative during the performance period

## **Stockholder Engagement**

The Company's Say-on-Pay proposal received majority support at the 2022 Annual Meeting with approval from 77% of the stockholders that voted. While pleased with the results and the improvement over the last two years, we undertook a similar outreach program this year by contacting investors holding approximately 60% of our shares. Many of our investors declined the opportunity to have a discussion as their feedback was generally positive regarding the changes made to programs over the last several years.

The feedback affirmed the positive changes made over the last two years. Below is a list of the key themes heard during these conversations with stockholders and the Committee's actions in response:

What we heard:		What we did:
<ul> <li>Continue to focus on stockholder alignment in the design of executive pay programs</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Peer group changes were made for 2022 to increase overlap with the proxy advisor peer group</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Confirmed through investor discussions that the changes made to the programs over the last two years were well-received and aligned with their expectations</li> </ul>
•	Continue to emphasize the Company's commitment to sustainability and publish carbon neutrality goals with annual incentives tied to this objective	<ul> <li>Added strategic carbon reduction objective to the annual incentive plan which included specific actions that were undertaken in 2022</li> </ul>

## 2022: RYAM is Well-positioned to be Part of a Sustainable Future

Our unique and innovative products are among the highest performing and most sustainable in our industry. The growing demand for sustainable solutions has enabled us to capture the increased value for our products through pricing that reflects that value. We negotiated price increases for our cellulose specialties grades coming into 2022, and after the first quarter, we quickly mitigated the impact of rapidly escalating cost inflation by further implementing a cost surcharge. We drove price increases for our paperboard products, and realized higher prices for our fluff, viscose, and high-yield pulp products. We continued to capture additional value for our cellulose specialties products as we not only successfully negotiated higher pricing for 2023 versus 2022 (inclusive of the cost surcharge), but we also negotiated greater flexibility into our cellulose specialty customer contracts, enabling us to efficiently adapt to market dynamics and cost inflation in the future.

Over the past year, RYAM made tremendous progress in building out its BioFuture by creating and investing in sustainable solutions, capturing value for our bio-based products, reducing costs through improved operational reliability, and decreasing its leverage. Altogether, these achievements resulted in a 68 percent total shareholder return in 2022.

## **2022 Compensation Overview**

Base compensation was adjusted in January 2022 for Messrs. Manzer, Moeltner, and Posze. In order to make the adjustments, the Company took into consideration the business outlook along with changes in market comparisons. For Messrs. Bloomquist, Consiglio, and Hicks, no adjustments were made for 2022 given their recent hires and market-competitive compensation. No other changes to compensation, bonus targets or equity grant values were made in 2022.

## **2022 Compensation Program Overview**

The Company's executive compensation program consists of base salary, annual cash incentive and equity incentive program.

PAY ELEMENT	COMPONENT	METRICS	WHAT THE PAY ELEMENT REWARDS		
Base Salary	• Cash	<ul> <li>Fixed amount based on responsibilities, experience, and market data</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Scope of core responsibilities, years of experience and potential to affect the Company's overall performance</li> </ul>		
Annual Cash Incentive	• Cash	<ul> <li>60% Collared Business EBITDA</li> <li>20% Days Working Capital</li> <li>20% Strategic Objectives</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Focus executives on achieving annual financial and strategic objectives that drive stockholder value</li> </ul>		
	PSUs (25% of total)	<ul> <li>50% based on relative TSR objectives</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Drive execution of financial goals that generate long-term stockholder value and support</li> </ul>		
Long Term Incentive	<ul> <li>Performance Cash (25% of total)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>50% Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA goal of fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024</li> </ul>	executive retention		
Program	<ul> <li>LPUs (20% of total)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Stock Price Growth from Grant Date</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Share price growth from date of grant against the measurement date share price.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>RSUs (30% of total)</li> </ul>	Time based RSUs that cliff vest over three years	<ul> <li>Support retention of the executive and growth of stock price</li> </ul>		



## **Program Pay Mix**

In keeping with our pay-for-performance philosophy, a substantial portion of the 2022 compensation for our NEOs is variable. The illustration below shows the components of their total direct compensation, which consists of annual base salary, annual cash incentive opportunity and equity incentive values exclusive of one-time sign-on awards, measured at target.





# **Compensation Best Practices**

What We Do	What We Don't Do
<ul> <li>Vast majority of pay is at-risk or variable, i.e., performance-based or equity-based or both</li> </ul>	X No single trigger change in control (CIC) cash payments or equity acceleration
<ul> <li>Stringent stock ownership guidelines (6x base salary for CEO)</li> </ul>	X No excise tax reimbursement for payments made in connection with a change in control
<ul> <li>Clawback provisions covering both cash and equity</li> </ul>	× No option or other equity award repricing
<ul> <li>Independent compensation consultant reporting to the Compensation Committee of the Board</li> </ul>	X No hedging or pledging of Company securities by executives
<ul> <li>Risk assessment performed annually</li> </ul>	× No NEO employment agreements
Engage with institutional investors regarding our	× No significant perquisites
executive compensation program	× No overlapping performance metrics

# **COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS IN DETAIL**

## **CEO Transition**

In 2022, the Board of Directors made a difficult decision in late May 2022 to terminate our short-tenured CEO, Vito J. Consiglio, and replace him with De Lyle Bloomquist, a long-serving Director who had been Board Chair for two years. Mr. Consiglio was provided severance associated with an involuntary termination without cause under the Executive Non-Change-in-Control Severance Plan.

During his employment, Mr. Consiglio was covered under the Non-Change in Control Severance Plan, which provides for a level of benefits if an executive is involuntarily terminated for reasons not associated with a change

in control or not for cause. In May 2022, the Board of Directors asked Mr. Consiglio to step down as President and Chief Executive Officer. In connection with his cessation of employment with the Company, due to his involuntary termination, Mr. Consiglio received the payments and benefits applicable upon a termination without cause under the Company's Non-Change in Control Executive Severance Plan, subject to the terms of the plan (with the six month service requirement for purposes of the prorated bonus for the year of termination deemed satisfied), in addition to any unpaid amounts and benefits accrued through his last date of service. As required by the terms of the Non-Change in Control Executive Severance Plan, Mr. Consiglio entered into a customary separation agreement, which includes a release of claims.

## 2022 EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AWARDS

The Compensation Committee approved the following compensation awards for our NEOs for 2022 based on the performance of each individual and the Company's results compared to its financial and strategic objectives.

#### **Base Salary**

Each of our NEOs has a competitive fixed annual base salary. Every year the Compensation Committee reviews NEO base salaries to determine appropriate adjustments, if any. In making adjustments to base salary levels, the Compensation Committee considers:

- Budgeted levels for annual salary based on benchmarking of the competitive compensation positioning of our CEO and other executive officers (see discussion below in this CD&A for further information regarding the Committee's use of benchmarking)
- The executive's level of responsibility
- The executive's experience and breadth of knowledge
- · The executive's annual performance review
- The executive's role in management continuity and development plans

The base salaries for our NEOs are benchmarked against peers each year and any adjustments are effective on January 1.

	BASE SALARY (\$) 2021	BASE SALARY (\$) 2022
De Lyle W. Bloomquist (hired May 28, 2022)	N/A	1,000,000
Vito J. Consiglio (former CEO)	N/A	1,000,000
Marcus J. Moeltner	460,000	475,000
Joshua C. Hicks	445,000	445,000
William R. Manzer	425,000	440,000
James L. Posze, Jr.	365,000	380,000

There was no overlap in salary for Messrs. Bloomquist, and Consiglio; total CEO combined salary paid was \$999,993 as reflected in the Summary Compensation Table in this Proxy Statement.

#### 2022 Annual Cash Incentive Program

The Annual Cash Incentive Program provides our NEOs the opportunity to earn a performance-based annual cash incentive. Target annual cash incentive opportunities are expressed as a percentage of base salary and established based on the NEO's level of responsibility and ability to affect overall results. The Compensation Committee also considers market data derived from the annual compensation benchmarking done by our Compensation



consultant in setting target award percentages. The Compensation Committee can exercise only negative discretion with an NEO's annual cash incentive award.

For 2022, the program had the following elements:

- 60%: Collared Business EBITDA
- 20%: Days Working Capital
- 20%: Strategic Initiatives

## **Collared Business EBITDA**

Collared Business EBITDA is defined as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA), adjusted for the application of a 50% commodity price collar that removes 50% of the positive or negative impact of commodity price changes from impacted sales and cost inputs. Additionally, Collared Business EBITDA excludes corporate segment EBITDA and is collared for 80% of foreign exchange fluctuations that are not hedged. These refinements placed management's focus on operating results. The Committee reverted to using an annual measurement cycle with an overall weighting of 60% after having split the year into two six-month cycles in the previous year.

In 2022, as shown in the results table which follows, the Company exceeded the financial performance goal established by the Compensation Committee for Collared Business EBITDA achieving a result of 116.9%.

## **Days Working Capital**

The Days Working Capital metric achieved a result of 161.7%. Days of Working Capital is a metric measuring the amount of days of working capital calculated on a rolling last twelve months ("LTM") basis.

## Safety and Strategic Initiatives

The Committee continued a component of the annual cash incentive program focused on non-financial objectives, consisting of seven strategic metrics:

- Safety Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- People, diversity and inclusion goals
- Business asset strategy execution
- Enterprise information technology systems improvement
- Innovation
- Biomaterials strategy
- Key ESG initiatives aligned to our long-term business strategy

The results were evaluated by the Committee and scored at 75% achieved .

## **Overall Plan Results**

The total weighted average of the three objectives resulted in a calculated cash incentive payout at 117.5% of target.

METRIC	2022 TARGET	2022 ACTUAL	2022 CALCULATED RESULTS	WEIGHTING	2022 PLAN PAYOUT <sup>(1)</sup>
Collared Business EBITDA	\$193.1M	\$228.2M	116.9%	60%	70.1%
Days Working Capital Improvement <sup>(2)</sup>	55.0 days	53.8 days	161.7%	20%	32.3%
Non-Financial Strategic Objectives	Various P	artially achieved	75%	20%	15.0%
Final Payout					117.5%

(1) Collared Business Unit Adjusted EBITDA threshold is established at 87.5% of target and maximum is established at 120% of target. Working Capital threshold is established at one day unfavorable to target and maximum is established at two days favorable to target. Actual performance and results are interpolated.

(2) The days working capital target included finished goods inventory, trade and other accounts receivable, grants and VAT receivables, current stores inventory, trade and freight accounts payable, and accrued professional fees.

## **Individual Awards**

The calculated and final 2022 cash incentive awards for each NEO are shown in the table below. The calculated results are rounded to the nearest \$5,000. Mr. Bloomquist participated in the 2022 annual incentive program at a time-based prorated amount representing the time following his hire. Mr. Consiglio was not eligible for a payment under this program due to his involuntary separation.

	CALCULATED RESULTS (\$)	COMMITTEE ADJUSTMENT (\$)	TOTAL BONUS PAID (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>
De Lyle W. Bloomquist	693,577	0	695,000
Vito J. Consiglio (former CEO, forfeited)	0	0	0
Marcus J. Moeltner	390,688	0	390,000
Joshua C. Hicks	339,869	0	340,000
William R. Manzer	361,900	0	360,000
James L. Posze, Jr.	267,900	0	270,000

(1) Rounded to nearest \$5,000

#### **Equity Incentive Program Awards Granted in 2022**

For 2022, the weighting between performance-based awards and RSUs has remained the same at 70% and 30%, respectively. However, a third performance-based award has been added that measures absolute share price improvement. RSU awards will cliff vest three years from the date of grant to encourage retention.

The performance-based awards were the following:

- PSUs weighted at 25% of the overall award value measuring performance against three-year relative TSR and Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA for fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024
- Performance based cash weighted at 25% of the overall award value using the same three-year goals as the PSUs
- One time use Leveraged Performance Share Units (LPUs) weighted at 20% of the overall award value measuring absolute share price achievement, with no shares vesting unless a significant, predetermined stock price hurdle is achieved

The 2022 PSU component of the Equity Incentive Program measures relative TSR and Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA for three years. Further, if RYAM's three-year TSR is negative, payouts for the TSR component will be capped at 100% unless RYAM's relative TSR is above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of the peer group at which time the cap would become 150%; however, payouts under the Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA metric will be measured and scored separately.



The following are the objectives for this program:

#### Relative TSR (50% Weight)

Payout Matrix			
	OBJECTIVE	PAYOUT	
Maximum	75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	200%	
Target	50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	100%	
Threshold	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	30%	

#### Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA<sup>(1)</sup> (50% Weight)

	THRESHOLD	TARGET	MAXIMUM
Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA Payout Range	30%	100%	200%

(1) Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA goals and results will be calculated excluding duties paid and will be disclosed in 2025 when the Program ends.

The target number of LPUs awarded was determined based on the average market closing price of RYAM stock for the 20 trading days preceding the grant date and the 20 trading days following the grant date (the "grant date share price"). The actual number of LPUs earned will be based on share price growth from the "grant date share price" compared against the "measurement date share price" determined based on the average of the closing market price of RYAM stock on the last 20 trading days of the three-year measurement period.

The specific objectives and payout ranges are as follows:

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT	STOCK PRICE GROWTH FROM GRANT	PERCENTAGE OF LPUS TARGET EARNED
Threshold	10%	50%
Target	25%	100%
Maximum	100%	250%

Results are interpolated between threshold and target, and target and maximum. Any result lower than 10% stock price growth will result in no payout.

The following table shows the target Equity Incentive Program award value granted for 2022 for each NEO:

	2022
	TARGET GRANT VALUE (\$)
De Lyle W. Bloomquist	2,500,000
Vito J. Consiglio (Former CEO, forfeited)	2,500,000
Marcus J. Moeltner	850,000
Joshua C. Hicks	600,000
William R. Manzer	725,000
James L. Posze, Jr.	510,000

In addition to the above March 2022 Equity Incentive Program awards, Mr. Hicks received LPUs in January of 2022 valued at \$250,000 as a part of his initial offer in connection with his December 2021 hire; he did not receive additional LPUs as a part of his March of 2022 awards. Mr. Consiglio also received a \$1,500,000 inducement award of LPUs in connection with his hire and did not receive additional LPUs in March 2022.

## **PAYOUT OF PREVIOUSLY AWARDED 2020 PERFORMANCE SHARE UNITS**

At the end of 2022, the three-year performance measurement period for PSUs awarded in 2020 concluded.

#### **Adjusted EBITDA Margin**

The payout for these awards was measured based on pre-established levels of Adjusted EBITDA margin for FY2022, weighted at 25%. The actual outcome was 10.8%. This result equated to an achievement of 74.1%.

	2020 PROGRAM
Threshold	9.5%
Target	11.5%
Maximum	13.5%
	RESULTS
Actual Adjusted EBITDA Margin <sup>(1)</sup> Achieved	10.8%

(1) Adjusted EBITDA margin is calculated based on Adjusted EBITDA (see Appendix F), excluding the impact of double CEO costs.

#### **Total Shareholder Return**

The second objective was based on a relative and absolute three-year cumulative TSR performance matrix weighted at 75%. The absolute cumulative three-year TSR was 117.4% and the relative ranking was at the 88<sup>th</sup> percentile which yielded an interpolated weighted payout of 167.4%.



Payout Matrix											
75%	125%	150%	200%								
50%	100%	125%	150%								
30%	50%	75%	125%								

Cumulative 3-Year TSR

Threshold	Target	Superior	Maximum
25.0%	50.0%	100.0%	150.0%

#### **Combined Overall Payout**

The two components combined shown in the following table achieved a 144.1% outcome:

	RESULTS	WEIGHTING	PLAN PAYOUT
Adjusted EBITDA Margin	74.1%	25%	18.5%
TSR Matrix	167.4%	75%	125.6%
Total Payout			144.1%



# **2023 EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AWARDS**

## 2023 Annual Cash Incentive

For 2023, the program will have the following elements:

- 50%: Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA
- 20%: Operating Cash Flow
- 15%: Safety, Diversity, and ESG Initiatives
- 15%: Individual Goals

#### 2023 Equity Incentive Program

For 2023, the weighting between performance-based and time-based awards will remain the same at 70% and 30%, respectively. However, the LPU element of the 2022 program has been removed as it was a one-time tool used to recruit two new senior leaders and align the rest of the NEOs with the same stock growth objectives. The program mix is as follows:

- PSUs weighted at 35% of the overall award value measuring performance against three-year relative TSR compared against the peer group of the S&P SmallCap 600 Capped Materials Index and Cumulative Adjusted EBITDA goals
- Performance Cash Units weighted at 35% of the overall award value using the same three-year goals as the PSUs
- RSUs at 30% of the overall award which vest three years following the date of the award

# DISCIPLINED AND TRANSPARENT EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PRACTICES

## **Compensation Responsibilities and Process**

The Compensation Committee has responsibility for establishing our compensation principles, monitoring executive performance and approving executive compensation levels and programs, as detailed below.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMING
Review and approve compensation levels for all our executive officers	Annually
Review and approve all compensation-related programs for executive officers	<ul> <li>» January – Set base salary and Annual Cash Incentive target compensation values for new fiscal year</li> <li>» February – Determine Annual Cash Incentive Program payouts in respect of prior fiscal year performance. Set performance measures, weightings and targets, for Equity Incentive Program awards for new fiscal year, with grants to be made in March</li> </ul>
Establish annual performance objectives for the CEO	Annually – in January
Evaluate CEO accomplishments and performance	Regular meetings and prior fiscal year's performance review conducted in February
Ensure all major considerations relating to compensation, including metrics used to set compensation targets and awards, are appropriately evaluated and that compensation and benefit programs are properly designed, implemented and monitored	Regular meetings throughout the year, with special meetings held as needed to address matters outside the normal compensation cycle
Confer with external compensation advisor and outside counsel for compensation-related advice and benchmarking	Routinely

The Compensation Committee regularly invites members of management to attend its meetings, as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate, to discuss and report on issues within their specific areas of expertise or responsibility. While the CEO recommends other NEOs' compensation levels to the Committee for its consideration and approval, the CEO does not participate in the deliberations of the Committee or the Board regarding his own compensation.

When making compensation recommendations and decisions, the Compensation Committee considers the CEO's assessment of the performance of each NEO other than himself; the performance of the individual and the individual's respective business unit or function; the scope of the individual's responsibilities; years of experience with the Company (or in similar positions with other companies); skills and knowledge; market compensation data; market and economic conditions; Company performance; retention considerations; and RYAM's compensation philosophy (collectively, the compensation factors). The Committee considers these compensation factors both subjectively and objectively and no single factor or combination of factors is determinative. With respect to CEO compensation, the Committee uses its judgement but generally seeks to set compensation in line with the anticipated market median for our compensation comparison group for a given year.

The Compensation Committee currently retains F. W. Cook to provide services. The Committee uses broad market survey data and peer group information referred to below in the "Benchmarking to Compensation Peer Groups" section provided by its compensation consultant as market reference points. The Committee also considers information the Company learns through recruiting NEOs and the experience levels and responsibilities of NEOs prior to joining the Company as reference points in setting NEO compensation.

The Compensation Committee has assessed the independence of F. W. Cook against the specific criteria under applicable SEC and NYSE criteria and rules and has determined, in its business judgement, that F. W. Cook is independent, and no conflict of interest is raised by F. W. Cook's work for the Committee.

# **BENCHMARKING TO COMPENSATION PEER GROUPS**

Skilled executive-level talent is essential to our success, and we compete with global companies in many industries for top people. The Compensation Committee studies market norms across the specialty chemicals industry, as well as the standards within the broader community of general industry U.S. manufacturing companies to assess and understand the competitive environment.

Our customized compensation comparison peer group, as recommended by F. W. Cook and approved by the Committee, is used to assess the competitiveness of the compensation of our CEO and other executive officers. For 2022, based on feedback from our investors, the Committee made changes to improve alignment with the Peer Group. The changes included the removal of Avient Corporation, Tronox Holdings, Albemarle Corporation, and W. R. Grace Corporation and the addition of Venator Materials, AdvanSix, Verso Corporation, and Tredegar Corporation. The following companies were included in the comparison peer group:

AdvanSix Ashland Global Ferro Corporation Glatfelter Corporation H.B. Fuller Company Innospec Inc. Koppers Holdings Inc. Kraton Minerals Technologies Inc. Quaker Chemical Corporation Sensient Technologies Corporation Stepan Company Tredegar Venator Materials Verso

We seek to include companies that compete with us for executive talent and are similar to us in industry, business model, revenue and/or market capitalization. Our Compensation Committee periodically reviews the composition of this peer group and makes changes it determines are appropriate based on changes to our businesses or to the attributes of companies in the group and the availability of their compensation data.



# **Executive Officer Stock Ownership and Retention Requirements**

We believe that meaningful stock ownership further focuses the senior management team on the long-term success of our business and aligns the interests of our management team with those of our stockholders. All executives at the Vice President level and higher are subject to rigorous stock ownership guidelines that require executives, within five years after taking such a position, to acquire and hold our stock with a value equal to a designated multiple of their base salary as follows:

TITLE	MULTIPLE OF BASE SALARY
President & CEO	6х
Executive Vice President	3х
Chief Financial Officer	3х
Chief Administrative Officer	3х
Senior Vice President	2x
Vice President	1x

Prior to satisfying the ownership requirement, executives are subject to retention requirements that prohibit them from selling any of our stock, other than stock withheld or sold to satisfy taxes in connection with the vesting of a stock-based award or stock option exercise. The types of securities that count toward satisfaction of the ownership requirements include Common Stock, restricted stock and RSUs, but excludes unvested performance-based awards and unexercised options. International executives may be excluded from the ownership requirements due to conflicting regulations in their country of residence.

Each year the Compensation Committee reviews each executive's progress toward meeting the guidelines and has determined that as of January 1, 2023 each of our executive officers is in compliance with our stock ownership and retention guidelines.

# **Clawback Policy**

In addition to the clawback provisions in our Equity Incentive Program and the Annual Cash Incentive Plan which provide that any clawbacks shall be determined at the discretion of the Compensation Committee each year in connection with their respective awards, our NEOs sign a Supplemental Terms Agreement describing the types of detrimental conduct that will trigger a clawback. Specific detrimental conduct is defined as committing an illegal act, including but not limited to embezzlement or misappropriation of Company funds, and willful failure to comply with the material policies and procedures of the Company as determined by the Committee. We expect to adopt a new clawback policy and/or modify existing clawback arrangements to reflect the applicability of the NYSE listing standards implementing the final rule promulgated by the SEC for recovery of erroneously awarded compensation once applicable to RYAM.

## **Risk Assessment**

We undertake a thorough risk assessment of our compensation programs annually. The first phase of the assessment is an analysis by the Company's human resources compensation function, which is reviewed with the Company's ERM Committee, staffed by members of senior management. The review includes the individual programs and potential and probable risks, along with mitigation efforts established to reduce or eliminate these risks. The results of the ERM assessment are then presented to the Compensation Committee for their review and approval. Based on its assessment of our compensation programs for our employees and executives for 2022, the Compensation Committee determined that our compensation programs and practices do not motivate behavior that is reasonably likely to have a material adverse impact on the Company.

## **Severance and Change in Control Benefits**

#### **Executive Severance Pay Plan - Change in Control**

As with all publicly traded companies, it is possible that our Company could face a change in control (CIC) and our business and stockholder value could be negatively affected by the uncertainty created by such a situation. To reduce such potential negative effects, encourage executive retention and foster the continued attention and dedication of senior executives even in the case of threat, rumor or occurrence of a CIC, the Compensation Committee established the Executive Severance Pay Plan, as amended, otherwise known as the Change in Control Severance Plan (CIC Severance Plan). The intent is to align executive and stockholder interests by enabling executives to consider corporate transactions that may be in the best interests of stockholders and other constituents without undue concern over whether a transaction would jeopardize the executives' employment or significantly disrupt or change the structure of their employment.

The CIC Severance Plan achieves these objectives by providing benefits to our NEOs and other eligible executives designated by the Compensation Committee, in the event of a CIC. Under the plan, if the executive is involuntarily terminated (other than for cause or due to death or disability) or terminates his or her employment for good reason (as defined in the CIC Severance Plan) within 24 months following the CIC (a double trigger), he or she will be entitled to enhanced severance benefits, which depend on the executive's status and level of responsibility.

The CIC Severance Plan does not provide any tax gross-up protection for our NEOs. It includes a "best net" provision pursuant to which a participant is entitled to the greater of (i) full CIC severance benefits with the participant responsible for payment of the excise tax, or (ii) a capped benefit, with the CIC severance benefits reduced to an amount just below the threshold for triggering the excise tax.

The Compensation Committee reviews the CIC Severance Plan annually and generally has discretion to terminate or amend the Plan, or include or exclude any executive, including any NEO, at any time prior to a CIC; however, if a CIC is underway, as defined by the Plan, any changes or amendments are not effective for two years.

#### **Equity Compensation Awards and Change in Control**

In the event of a CIC, the governing documents provide that outstanding stock options and time-based RSU awards will not automatically vest upon a CIC, but instead will vest upon the award holder's involuntary termination of employment by the Company (other than for cause or due to death or disability) or termination for good reason occurring within two years following a CIC transaction (a double trigger). Performance shares or PSUs that remain outstanding upon such a qualifying termination will vest at target if the performance period is not more than 50% complete at the time of such termination; if the performance period is more than 50% complete at the time of such termination performance shares or PSUs will vest at the greater of target or actual performance achievement through the time of such termination.

#### **Executive Severance Non-Change in Control Plan**

Our Executive Severance Non-Change in Control Plan (Non-CIC Severance Plan) provides enhanced severance benefits to all salaried employees at the level of vice president (or their internal equivalent) and above, including the NEOs, in the event their employment is terminated other than for cause or other non-qualifying terminations defined in the plan. Benefits may range from nine months to 24 months of base salary plus target Annual Cash Incentive dependent on the executive's status and level of responsibility. In the event of an executive termination triggered by a CIC, the executive would receive severance benefits only under the CIC Severance Plan.

The potential payments and other benefits under the CIC Severance Plan and the Non-CIC Severance Plan are calculated in the Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control table which also indicates the individual severance multiple for each NEO. Such potential payments do not affect the Compensation Committee's decisions regarding executive compensation, including base salary, annual cash incentive and long-term incentive award levels.



#### **Retirement Benefits**

The Company has adopted the tax-qualified 401(k) plans and non-qualified excess savings/deferred compensation plans described below. Our Compensation Committee undertakes an annual, comprehensive review of these plans, to determine if any modifications are necessary or appropriate in light of current trends and best practices, the nature of our business and competitive factors.

We place great value on the long-term commitment that many of our employees and NEOs have made to the Company and wish to incentivize our employees to remain with the Company and focus on building sustainable value over the long term. Therefore, we have determined that it is appropriate to provide employees with competitive retirement benefits as part of their overall compensation package.

We maintain the following plans and programs to provide retirement benefits to our employees:

- » The Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Investment and Savings Plan for Salaried Employees (401(k) Plan)
- » The Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Excess Savings and Deferred Compensation Plan (Excess Savings and Deferred Compensation Plan)

For additional information regarding our Excess Savings and Deferred Compensation Plan, see the discussion following the Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Table.

## **Limited Perquisites**

We provide our NEOs with limited perquisites, which are reviewed annually by our Compensation Committee. Under our perquisites program, in addition to personal benefits that are available broadly to our employees, our NEOs are eligible to participate in two programs:

- » Executive Physical Program: Each executive-level employee is encouraged to have a physical examination every other year until age 50 and every year after 50.
- » Senior Executive Tax and Financial Planning Program: This program provides reimbursement to senior executives, including our NEOs, for expenses incurred for financial and estate planning and for preparation of annual income tax returns. Reimbursements are taxable to the recipient and are not grossed-up for tax purposes. The annual reimbursement limit for 2022 was \$25,000 for Mr. Bloomquist and \$10,000 for all other participants.

We do not provide Company cars, pay car allowances, personal club membership dues, home-security expenses, or provide chartered aircraft for personal use.

## **Certain Tax Considerations**

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) generally prohibits a public company from deducting compensation paid in any year in excess of \$1 million to its CEO and other covered employees. In evaluating executive compensation components, the Compensation Committee considers the net cost to us and its ability to effectively administer executive compensation in the long-term interest of stockholders. The Compensation Committee believes that it is important to preserve flexibility in administering compensation programs in a manner designed to promote corporate goals. Accordingly, the Committee retains the flexibility to approve elements of compensation that it believes are consistent with the objectives of our executive compensation program, even if that might result in the non-deductibility under the IRC.

# REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The following report of our Compensation and Management Development Committee does not constitute soliciting material and should not be deemed filed or incorporated by reference into any other previous or future filings by us under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate this report by reference therein.

The Compensation and Management Development Committee of the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Board of Directors (the Compensation Committee) has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis as required by Item 402(b) of SEC Regulation S-K with management and, based on such review and discussions, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement and incorporated by reference into the Company's 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC.

The Compensation and Management Development Committee

Julie A. Dill, Chair Charles E. Adair Thomas I. Morgan Lisa M. Palumbo



# **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES AND RELATED INFORMATION**

## 2022 Summary Compensation Table

NAME AND PRINCIPAL POSITION	YEAR	SALARY (\$)	BONUS (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	STOCK AWARDS (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	OPTION AWARDS (\$)	NON-EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN COMPENSATION (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	CHANGE IN PENSION VALUE AND NON-QUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION EARNINGS (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	ALL OTHER COMPENSATION (\$) <sup>(5)</sup>	TOTAL (\$)
De Lyle W. Bloomquist	2022	590,278	-	1,681,313	-	695,000	-	198,140	3,164,731
President and	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chief Executive Officer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vito J. Consiglio	2022	409,715	-	2,945,549	-	-	-	4,637,663	7,992,927
Former President and	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chief Executive Officer <sup>(6)</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marcus J. Moeltner	2022	475,000	-	894,407	-	390,000	-	49,511	1,808,918
Chief Financial Officer and	2021	460,000	-	605,915	-	360,000	-	43,633	1,469,548
Senior Vice President, Finance	2020	425,000	-	146,626	-	300,000	-	32,332	903,958
Joshua C. Hicks	2022	445,000	-	926,375	-	340,000	-	203,944	1,915,319
Senior Vice President,	2021	32,027	505,000	1,019,892	-	-	-	34,500	1,591,419
High Purity Cellulose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
William R. Manzer	2022	440,000	-	762,885	-	360,000	-	42,386	1,605,271
Executive Vice President,	2021	425,000	-	519,362	-	285,000	-	32,263	1,261,625
Manufacturing Operations	2020	390,000	-	207,000	-	230,000	-	25,909	852,909
James L. Posze Jr.	2022	380,000		536,650	_	270,000	_	48,421	1,234,071
Chief Administrative Officer			-		-	245,000	_	•	
and Senior Vice President, Human Resources		365,000	-	367,884	-	•	-	45,444	1,023,328
Human Resources	2020	335,000	-	146,626	-	200,000	-	35,995	717,621

(1) The amount for 2021 for Mr. Hicks reflects a \$475,000 cash inducement award and a pro-rata 2021 incentive payment in connection with his December 6, 2021 hire.

(2) Stock awards for Mr. Consiglio were forfeited upon his termination. Reflects the grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 for PSU awards granted in 2020, 2021 and 2022 using a Monte Carlo simulation model. A discussion of the assumptions used in calculating these values may be found in Note 16 Incentive Stock Plans includes in the notes to the consolidated financial statements in our 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Amounts reflect our accounting for these awards and do not necessarily correspond to the actual values that may be realized by our NEOs. The PSU awards vest following completion of the 36-month performance period upon the determination of the amount earned, if any, based upon performance achievement and actual award value can range from zero to 200% of the target. The LPU awards vest following completion of the 36-month performance period upon performance achievement and actual award value can range from zero to 200% of the target. The LPU awards vest following completion of the 36-month performance period upon performance achievement and actual award value can range from zero to 200% of the target. The LPU awards vest following completion of the 36-month performance period upon performance achievement and actual award value can range from zero to 200% of the target. See the Equity Incentive Program section of the CD&A for additional information.

The grant date fair value of PSU awards were computed based on the probable outcome of the performance conditions as of the grant date of such awards, which was at target. The respective grant date fair values of the PSUs granted in 2020, 2021 and 2022, as applicable, assuming at such grant date the maximum payment (200% of target in the case of 2020, 2021 and 2022 PSUs and 250% of target in the case of 2022 LPUs), would have been as follows: Mr. Bloomquist, \$2,567,808; Mr. Consiglio, \$5,132,254; Mr. Moeltner, \$293,252, \$546,077 and \$1,458,781; Mr. Hicks, \$563,385 and \$1,175,484; Mr. Manzer, \$414,000, \$1,108,874 and \$1,244,279; and Mr. Posze, \$293,252, \$785,483 and \$875,288.

- (3) Amounts under the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column represent annual cash incentive awards under our 2022, 2021 and 2020 Annual Cash Incentive Programs.
- (4) Reflects the annual aggregate change in actuarial present value of the participant's pension benefit under the Company's retirement plans in 2022. None of our NEOs participate in the closed pension plan. There were no above-market earnings on non-qualified deferred compensation.
- (5) The All Other Compensation column in the 2022 Summary Compensation Table above includes the following for 2022: financial planning and tax services, 401(k) retirement contribution/enhanced match, Excess Savings Plans, relocation benefits and associated tax assistance, severance, and other miscellaneous items.
- (6) For Mr. Consiglio, all outstanding equity awards including the inducement LPUs were forfeited upon his involuntary termination and he did not receive any additional or enhanced benefits beyond what he was contractually entitled to under the Executive Severance Plan.

# All Other 2022 Compensation

	DE LYLE W. BLOOMQUIST (\$)	VITO J. CONSIGLIO (\$)	MARCUS J. MOELTNER (\$)	JOSHUA C. HICKS (\$)	WILLIAM R. MANZER (\$)	JAMES L. POSZE JR. (\$)
Tax and Financial Planning services	-	15,500	-	1,995	-	10,000
401(k) Plan Company contributions	12,200	7,500	12,200	10,250	12,200	12,200
401(k) Retirement contribution/Enhanced Match	9,150	9,150	9,150	9,150	9,150	9,150
Excess Savings Plan Company contributions	18,025	3,350	22,058	12,743	17,700	13,400
Relocation benefit	117,191	251,433	-	133,983	-	-
Tax assistance (gross-up) on Relocation benefit	37,494	161,587	-	29,254	-	-
Severance	-	4,166,667	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	4,080	22,476	6,103	6,569	3,336	3,671
Total	198,140	4,637,663	49,511	203,944	42,386	48,421

# Salary and Bonus as a Proportion of Total Compensation

Using the amounts shown under the "Salary" and "Bonus" and "Total" columns in the 2022 Summary Compensation Table, the salary and bonus of each of our NEOs as a proportion of such NEO's 2022 total compensation was as follows:

NAME	SALARY AND BONUS AS PROPORTION OF TOTAL COMPENSATION
De Lyle W. Bloomquist	19%
Vito J. Consiglio (former CEO)	5%
Marcus J. Moeltner	26%
Joshua C. Hicks	23%
William R. Manzer	27%
James L. Posze, Jr.	31%



# **GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS IN 2022 TABLE**

			UNDER NO	D FUTURE F N-EQUITY II N AWARDS	NCENTIVE	UNDER I	D FUTURE I EQUITY INC	ENTIVE	ALL OTHER STOCK AWARDS: NUMBER OF SHARES OF STOCK	GRANT DATE FAIR VALUE OF STOCK AND OPTION
NAME	GRANT DATE	APPROVAL DATE <sup>(1)</sup>	THRESHOLD (\$)	TARGET ( (\$)	MAXIMUM (\$)	THRESHOLI (#)	D TARGET (#)	MAXIMUM (#)	OR UNITS (#) <sup>(5)</sup>	AWARDS (\$) <sup>(5)</sup>
De Lyle W. Bloomquist	DATE	DATE	,	(1)	,			. ,	(")	(+)
Annual Incentive Plan	5/28/2022	5/28/2022	23,611	590.278	1,180,556					
Performance Cash Units	5/28/2022	5/28/2022	93,750	312,500	625,000					
Performance Cash Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022	93,750	312,500	625,000					
Performance Share Units	5/28/2022	5/28/2022				16,276	54,254	108,508		308,705
Performance Share Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022				35,378		235,850		312,501
Leveraged Performance Units	6/13/2022	5/28/2022				41,877	83,753	209,383		530,156
Restricted Stock Units	5/28/2022	5/28/2022							130,209	529,951
Vito J. Consiglio										
Annual Incentive Plan	1/1/2022	1/16/2022	16,389	409,715	819,430					
Performance Cash Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022	131,250	437,500	875,000					
Performance Share Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022				22,787	75,955	151,910		713,217
Leveraged Performance Units	1/31/2022	1/1/2022				126,263	252,526	631,315		1,482,328
<b>Restricted Stock Units</b>	3/1/2022	2/15/2022							130,209	750,004
Marcus J. Moeltner										
Annual Incentive Plan	1/1/2022	1/16/2022	13,300	332,500	665,000					
Performance Cash Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022	31,875	106,250	212,500					
Performance Cash Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022	31,875	106,250	212,500					
Performance Share Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022				5,534	18,447	36,894		173,217
Performance Share Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022				12,029	40,095	80,190		106,252
Leveraged Performance Units	3/29/2022	2/15/2022				14,238	28,476	71,190		359,937
Restricted Stock Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022							44,271	255,001
Joshua C. Hicks										
Annual Incentive Plan	1/1/2022	1/16/2022	11,570	289,250	578,500					
Performance Cash Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022	31,500	105,000	210,000					
Performance Cash Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022	31,500	105,000	210,000					
Performance Share Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022				5,469	18,230	36,460		171,180
Performance Share Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022				11,887	39,623	79,246		105,001
Leveraged Performance Units	1/4/2022	10/19/2021				21,295	42,590	106,475		470,194
Restricted Stock Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022							31,250	180,000

			ESTIMATED UNDER NON PLAN		INCENTIVE	ESTIMATED UNDER EC PLAI		CENTIVE	ALL OTHER STOCK AWARDS: NUMBER OF SHARES OF STOCK	GRANT DATE FAIR VALUE OF STOCK AND OPTION
NAME	GRANT DATE	APPROVAL DATE <sup>(1)</sup>	THRESHOLD (\$)	TARGET (\$)	MAXIMUM (\$)	THRESHOLD (#)	TARGET (#)	MAXIMUM (#)	OR UNITS (#) <sup>(5)</sup>	AWARDS (\$) <sup>(5)</sup>
William R. Manzer										
Annual Incentive Plan	1/1/2022	1/16/2022	12,320	308,000	616,000					
Performance Cash Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022	27,188	90,625	210,000					
Performance Cash Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022	27,188	90,625	210,000					
Performance Share Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022				4,720	15,734	31,468		147,742
Performance Share Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022				10,260	34,199	68,398		90,627
Leveraged Performance Units	3/29/2022	2/15/2022				12,145	24,289	60,723		307,013
Restricted Stock Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022							37,761	217,503
James L. Posze, Jr.										
Annual Incentive Plan	1/1/2022	1/16/2022	9,120	228,000	456,000					
Performance Cash Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022	19,125	63,750	127,500					
Performance Cash Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022	19,125	63,750	127,500					
Performance Share Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022				3,320	11,068	22,136		103,929
Performance Share Units	7/13/2022	7/13/2022				7,217	24,057	48,114		63,751
Leveraged Performance Units	3/29/2022	2/15/2022				8,543	17,086	42,715		215,967
Restricted Stock Units	3/1/2022	2/15/2022							26,563	153,003

- (1) 2022 Equity Incentive Program grants were approved February 15, 2022 and the grant date reflects the date on which the Compensation Committee approved the applicable performance measures. Our Equity Incentive Program RSU and PSU awards granted March 1 are set in dollars and converted to shares using the closing price of RYAM stock on the March 1, 2022 award date, which was \$5.76 per share. The RSU and PSU awards for Mr. Bloomquist were set in dollars and converted to shares using the same calculation method as the forfeited March awards of the former CEO, the closing price of RYAM stock on March 1, 2022, which was \$5.76 per share. For the RSU and PSU awards granted July 13, the award values are set in dollars and converted to shares using the closing price of RYAM stock on the July 13, 2022 award date, which was \$2.65 per share. The LPUs granted in 2022 are set in dollars and converted to shares using the average of the twenty trading days prior to and following the award date. The average price was \$5.87 for Mr. Hicks' January 4, 2022 LPUs; \$5.94 for Mr. Consiglio's January 31, 2022 award; and \$5.97 for the remaining March 2022 awards.
- (2) Reflects range of potential cash incentive awards under the 2022 Annual Cash Incentive Program. Awards can range from zero to 200% of the target cash incentive award. See the 2022 Annual Cash Incentive Program section of the CD&A for more information. The actual amount earned by each NEO for 2022 is reflected in the 2022 Summary Compensation Table under the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column.
- (3) Reflects performance cash unit awards approved February 15, 2022 as a part of 2022 long-term incentives; the grant date reflects the date on which the Compensation Committee approved the applicable performance measures. Each performance cash unit represents the right to receive a cash payment equal to \$1 on the vesting date which is three years from the grant date. Awards can range from zero to 200% of the target units/value. See the 2022 Equity Incentive Program section of the CD&A for additional information. The actual amount earned if any will be reflected in the 2025 Proxy Statement in the Summary Compensation Table under the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column.
- (4) Reflects potential payouts, in numbers of shares, that were possible to earn under the 2022 Equity Incentive Program PSU awards. Payouts can range from zero to 200% of the target units/value for PSUs and zero to 250% for LPUs. See the Equity Incentive Program Awards in 2022 section of the CD&A for additional information.
- (5) Reflects RSUs awarded March 1, 2022 under the 2022 Equity Award Program. Mr. Bloomquist's RSUs were awarded in connection with his May 28, 2022 hire.
- (6) Reflects the grant date fair value of each equity award computed in accordance with FASB Topic 718. For PSUs, the grant date fair value is computed based on the probable outcome of the performance conditions as of the grant date for the award, using the Monte Carlo simulation model which utilizes multiple input variables that determine the probability of satisfying the performance conditions stipulated in the award to determine the fair market value. A discussion of the assumptions used in calculating these values may be found in the "Incentive Stock Plans notes to our financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for 2021. No options were granted to the NEOs in 2022.



# **OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT 2022 FISCAL YEAR END TABLE**

			OPTION AW	ARDS <sup>(4)</sup>			_	STO	OCK AWARDS	5(4)	
					EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN AWARDS					EQUITY INC	ENTIVE PLAN ARDS
VAME	NUMBER OF SECURITIES UNDERLYING UNEXERCISED OPTIONS (#) EXERCISABLE	NUMBER OF SECURITIES UNDERLYING UNEXERCISED OPTIONS (#) UNEXERCISABLE <sup>(1)</sup>	OPTION EXERCISE PRICE (\$)	OPTION GRANT DATE	NUMBER OF SECURITIES UNDERLYING UNEXERCISED UNEARNED OPTIONS	OPTION EXPIRATION DATE	STOCK AWARD GRANT DATE	NUMBER OF SHARES OR UNITS OF STOCK THAT HAVE NOT VESTED (#) <sup>(1)</sup>	MARKET VALUE OF SHARES OR UNITS OF STOCK THAT HAVE NOT VESTED (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	NUMBER OF UNEARNED SHARES, UNITS OR OTHER RIGHTS THAT HAVE NOT VESTED (#) <sup>(2)</sup>	
De Lyle W. Bloomquist	0	0	0	-	0	-					
							5/28/2022	130,209	\$1,250,006		
							5/28/2022			108,508	\$1,041,677
							6/13/2022			209,383	\$2,010,077
							7/13/2022			235,850	\$2,264,160
Vito J. Consiglio	0	0	0	-	0	-					
								0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0
Marcus J. Moeltner	0	0	0	-	0	-					
							3/1/2021	24,194	\$ 232,262		
							3/1/2022	44,271	\$ 425,002		
							3/1/2020			141,666	\$1,359,994
							3/1/2021			14,113	\$ 135,485
							7/14/2021			28,226	\$ 270,970
							3/1/2022			36,894	\$ 354,182
							3/29/2022			71,190	\$ 683,424
			-				7/13/2022			80,190	\$ 769,824
Joshua C. Hicks	0	0	0	-	0	-	12/6/2021	65,560	\$ 629,376		
							3/1/2022	31,250	\$ 300,000		*
							12/6/2021			21,854	\$ 209,798
							12/6/2021			43,706	\$ 419,578
							1/21/2022			106,475	\$1,022,160
							3/1/2022 7/13/2022			36,460 79,246	\$ 350,016 \$ 760,762
		_					7/13/2022			79,240	\$ 700,702
William R. Manzer	1,390	0		1/2/2014		1/2/2024					
	1,047	0	45.2121	1/2/2015	0	1/2/2025	3/1/2021	20,738	\$ 199,085		
							3/1/2021	37,761	\$ 362,506		
							3/1/2022	57,701	<i>¥ 302,300</i>	200,000	\$1,920,000
							3/1/2020			12,097	\$ 116,131
							7/14/2021			24,194	\$ 232,262
							3/1/2022				\$ 302,093
							3/29/2022				\$ 582,941
							7/13/2022			68,398	\$ 656,621
James L. Posze Jr.	2,163	0	36.5528	1/2/2014	0	1/2/2024					
	1,399	0		1/2/2013		1/2/2023					
							3/1/2021	14,689	\$ 141,014		
							3/1/2022	26,563	\$ 255,005		
							3/1/2020			141,666	\$1,359,994
							3/1/2021			8,569	
							7/14/2021				\$ 164,525
							3/1/2022			22,136	
							3/29/2022			42,715	\$ 410,064
							7/13/2022			48,114	\$ 461,894

(1) Option awards vested and became exercisable in one-third increments on the first, second and third anniversaries of the grant date. RSU awards vest on the third anniversary of the grant date. For Mr. Hicks, 50% of his December 6, 2021 RSU award vested December 6, 2022 and the remaining 50% will vest December 6, 2023. Mr. Bloomquist's 2022 awards were granted as if he had been an employee on March 1, 2022 and will vest together with the NEOs on March 1, 2025.

(2) Represents PSU awards granted in 2020, 2021 and 2022, with a 36-month performance period. These awards are immediately vested following the completion of the performance period upon the determination of the amount earned, if any, based upon performance achievement. Under the terms of

our PSU awards, the actual award value can range from zero to 200% of the target. For the 2022 LPU awards, the actual award value can range from zero to 250% of the target. The amounts reported here for the 2020 PSUs are reflected at maximum level; actual amounts earned for the performance period ending December 31, 2022 are discussed in the CD&A. The amounts reported here for the 2021 PSUs granted March 1, 2021 assume target performance achievement, the remaining 2021 PSUs, 2022 PSUs and 2022 LPUs assume maximum performance achievement, but the amounts actually earned pursuant to these awards, if any, will not be determined until following the end of the respective performance periods on February 28, 2024 and February 28, 2025.

- (3) Value based on the December 31, 2022 closing price of Rayonier Advanced Materials stock of \$9.60.
- (4) Share amounts and option exercise prices shown have been adjusted to reflect a June 2014 valuation adjustment due to our spinoff from our former parent company.

# **OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED IN 2022 TABLE**

	OPTION A	STOCK AWARDS			
NAME	NUMBER OF SHARES ACQUIRED ON EXERCISE (#)	VALUE REALIZED ON EXERCISE (\$)	NUMBER OF SHARES ACQUIRED ON VESTING (#)(1)	VALUE REALIZED ON VESTING (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	
De Lyle Bloomquist	-	-	0	\$0	
Vito Consiglio	-	-	0	\$0	
Marcus J. Moeltner	-	-	13,458	\$77,518	
Joshua C. Hicks	-	-	65,559	\$531,683	
William R. Manzer	-	-	12,287	\$70,773	
James L. Posze Jr.	-	-	8,704	\$50,135	

(1) Represents vesting of RSUs and the zero payout of the 2019 PSU awards which were a part of the overall 2019 Equity Incentive Plan, with value realized on vesting determined by multiplying the number of shares acquired on vesting by the \$5.76 closing market price of our Common Stock on the March 1, 2022 vesting date. The number of shares acquired for Mr. Hicks represents the partial vesting of his 2021 RSUs granted upon hire, with the value realized was determined by multiplying the number of shares acquired on vesting by the closing price of our Common Stock on the December 6, 2022 vesting date.

# NON-QUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION TABLE

NAME	EXECUTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS IN LAST FY (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	REGISTRANT CONTRIBUTIONS IN LAST FY (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	AGGREGATE EARNINGS IN LAST FY (\$)	AGGREGATE WITHDRAWALS/ DISTRIBUTIONS IN LAST FY (\$)	AGGREGATE BALANCE AT LAST FYE (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>
De Lyle Bloomquist	16,333	18,025	192	-	25,992
Vito Consiglio	-	3,350	-	-	-
Marcus J. Moeltner	11,383	22,058	2,799	-	94,756
Joshua C. Hicks	15,285	12,743	268	-	23,196
William R. Manzer	8,200	17,700	3,099	-	100,812
James L. Posze Jr.	8,783	13,400	9,563	-	260,763

(1) All Executive and Company contributions in the last fiscal year are reflected in the Summary Compensation Table in this Proxy Statement as 2022 compensation.

(2) The sum of all contributions and credited earnings, less withdrawals. Of these totals, the following amounts have been included in the Summary Compensation Table in prior years: Mr. Bloomquist, \$0; Mr. Consiglio, \$0; Mr. Moeltner, \$73,237; Mr. Hicks, \$0; Mr. Manzer, \$51,212; and Mr. Posze, \$193,036.

The Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Excess Savings and Deferred Compensation Plan (the Excess Savings Plan) is a nonqualified, unfunded plan that consists of two components, an Excess Savings component (a supplement to the Rayonier Advanced Materials Investment Savings Plan for Salaried Employees (the Savings Plan)) and an Excess Base Salary and Bonus Deferral component.

The Savings Plan, which is our tax qualified 401(k) plan, is not reflected in the table above which under SEC rules covers only our non-qualified deferred compensation plan. The Savings Plan is designed to encourage salaried employees to save and invest for retirement. Under this Plan, employees may contribute up to the annual IRS limits on a pre-tax basis. The Company matches such contributions at a rate of \$.50 for each \$1.00 up to 8% of the employee's base salary. In addition, for 2022, the Company made an annual retirement contribution to each



participant's account equal to 3% of base salary and annual cash incentive award for employees hired after January 1, 2006. The retirement contribution was increased and automatic enrollment of all new salaried employees in the Savings Plan implemented, coincident with the closing of the Company's defined benefit pension plan to new salaried employees effective January 1, 2006. This change reflects the Company's desire that salaried employees take a more active role in planning, saving and investing for retirement.

The Company contributions to the Savings Plan, both matching and retirement contributions, vest at a rate of 20% per year over the participant's first five years of employment. These contributions are reflected as compensation in the Summary Compensation Table in this Proxy Statement.

The Excess Savings Plan supplements the Savings Plan by providing employees with Company contributions that are lost due to the IRC regulations limiting employee contributions to tax qualified 401(k) plans. Participants can contribute up to 8% of total base salary. The Company contributes up to 4% of total base salary (reduced by the regular matching contributions made under the Savings Plan). Amounts contributed by participants and the Company match, are unsecured, but earn a return equal to 120% of the applicable federal long-term rate (adjusted monthly). The average interest rate in 2022 was 3.48%. Excess Savings Plan participants may elect to receive a lump sum or annual installments upon termination of employment.

The Excess Base Salary and Bonus Deferral component of the Excess Savings Plan allows employees with a base salary in excess of \$175,000 the opportunity to defer up to 100% of their base salary and all or any portion of their annual cash incentive award. Amounts deferred are unsecured but earn a return equal to the 10-year treasury rate plus 1.50% (adjusted monthly). The average treasury interest rate in 2022 was 2.95%. Excess Base Salary Deferral and Annual Bonus Deferral participants may elect to receive a lump sum or annual installments not to exceed fifteen years upon termination of employment or a specific date.

# POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE IN CONTROL

NAME	CASH SEVERANCE (\$)	ANNUAL CASH INCENTIVE SEVERANCE (\$)	PENSION/ 401(K) BENEFITS (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	MEDICAL/ WELFARE, TAX AND OUTPLACEMENT BENEFITS (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	ACCELERATION OF EQUITY AWARDS (\$) <sup>(5)</sup>	OTHER
De Lyle W. Bloomquist						
Voluntary Termination	-	-	-	-	-	-
Terminated for cause	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retirement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary termination <sup>(1)</sup>	2,000,000	2,695,000	-	32,071	-	-
Change in Control	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary or voluntary termination for good reason after change in control <sup>(2)</sup>	3,000,000	3,695,000	320,850	58,984	3,639,818	-
Vito J. Consiglio						
Involuntary termination <sup>(1)</sup>	2,000,000	2,166,667	_	49,283	-	-
Marcus J. Moeltner						
Voluntary Termination	-	-	-	-	-	-
Terminated for cause	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retirement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary termination <sup>(1)</sup>	712,500	888,750	-	47,911	979,882	-
Change in Control	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary or voluntary termination for good reason after change in control <sup>(2)</sup>	1,425,000	1,560,000	141,375	74,447	3,292,848	-
Joshua C. Hicks						
Voluntary Termination	_	-	-	-	-	-
Terminated for cause	_	_	-	-	-	-
Retirement	_	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary termination <sup>(1)</sup>	667,500	773,875	-	51,197	629,376	-
Change in Control	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary or voluntary termination for good reason after change in control <sup>(2)</sup>	1,335,000	1,360,000	129,683	80,767	2,680,220	-
William R. Manzer						
Voluntary Termination	-	-	-	-	-	-
Terminated for cause	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retirement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary termination <sup>(1)</sup>	660,000	822,000	-	42,038	1,383,360	-
Change in Control	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary or voluntary termination for good reason after change in control <sup>(2)</sup>	1,320,000	1,440,000	130,920	63,451	3,359,340	-
James L. Posze Jr.						
Voluntary Termination	_	-	-	-	-	-
Terminated for cause	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retirement	_	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary termination <sup>(1)</sup>	570,000	612,000	-	35,851	979,882	-
Change in Control	-	-	-	-	-	-
Involuntary or voluntary termination for good reason after change in control <sup>(2)</sup>	1,140,000	1,080,000	108,420	51,398	2,373,020	_

(1) For purposes of calculating the executive's cash severance entitlement, represents the executive's base salary and target annual cash incentive pay times the applicable tier multiplier under the Non-CIC Severance Plan (2 times for Tier I, 1.5 times for Tier II, and 1 time for Tier III) and pro-rata as of December 31, 2022. Messrs. Bloomquist and Consiglio are included in Tier I; Messrs. Moeltner, Hicks, Manzer, and Posze are included in Tier II.



- (2) For purposes of calculating the executive's cash severance entitlement, the executive's base pay is multiplied by the applicable tier multiplier under the CIC Severance Plan (3 times for Tier I and 2 times for Tier II). Messrs. Bloomquist, Moeltner, Hicks, Manzer, and Posze are included in Tier I. For purposes of calculating the Annual Cash Incentive Severance, the applicable tier multiplier is applied to the greater of: (i) the highest annual bonus received over the three years preceding the termination of employment; (ii) the target Annual Cash Incentive for the year in which the CIC occurred; or (iii) the target Annual Cash Incentive in the year of termination, which is the full-year cash incentive for termination as of December 31, 2022. For Mr. Consiglio, all outstanding equity awards and he did not receive any additional or enhanced benefits beyond what he was contractually entitled to under the Executive Severance Plan.
- (3) Represents the value of an additional two or three years, based upon the applicable tier multiplier, of additional years participation in the Savings Plan at the executive's current contribution levels.
- (4) Represents: (i) the present value of the annual Company contribution to health and welfare plans times the applicable tier multiplier; (ii) the value of the executive's annual tax and financial planning allowance of \$25,000 for Mr. Bloomquist and \$10,000 for the other NEOs; and (iii) up to \$30,000 in outplacement services.
- (5) PSU and RSU awards were valued using the closing price of the Company's stock on December 31, 2022. Any payout of the PSUs is subject to any common stock share cap under the Equity Incentive Plan in effect at the time of grant. Under the CIC Severance Plan, outstanding PSUs and LPUs for which the performance period is not more that 50% complete will vest at target upon a change in control. Outstanding PSUs and LPUs for which the performance period is more than 50% complete at the time of the change in control will vest at the greater of target or actual performance achievement as determined pursuant to CIC Severance Plan terms. The 2020 PSUs are reflected at 144.1%; all other PSUs are reflected at 100%. The 2022 LPUs are reflected at 138.4% for Mr. Hicks and 133.6% for all other NEOs.

As discussed in the CD&A under Severance Pay and Change in Control Benefits, under our CIC Severance Plan, there are no excise tax reimbursements made for our executives. They are instead subject to a net best provision whereby the executive would be entitled to the greater after-tax benefit of either (i) full CIC payments and benefits, for which the executive is responsible for the payment of any applicable 208G excise tax or (ii) CIC payments and benefits cut back to the amount that would result in no 280G excise tax for the executive.

Our Non-CIC Severance Plan provides severance benefits to employees at the level of Vice President and above, including the NEOs, in the event their employment is terminated (other than for cause or other non-qualifying terminations defined in the plan). This Non-CIC Severance Plan replaces the Severance Pay Plan for Salaried Employees for the executive level group of employees. Benefits may range from nine months to 24 months of base salary plus target annual incentive. The individual severance multipliers for the NEOs are noted in the footnotes to the table above.

The amounts shown in the table above do not include payments and benefits to the extent that they are provided on a non-discriminatory basis to salaried employees generally upon termination of employment, including accrued salary, vacation pay, regular pension benefits, welfare benefits and 401(k) distributions. Amounts that would be distributed pursuant to the Company's nonqualified deferred compensation plans are indicated in the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation table. Other than as reflected in the table and footnote (3) above, amounts that would be distributed pursuant to the Company's tax-qualified and non-qualified retirement plans are indicated in the Pension Benefits table.

A termination by an executive within two years after a change in control would generally be for good reason if it results from: (i) a significant diminution in the executive's position or the assignment to the executive of any duties inconsistent in any respect with his or her position (including status, offices, titles and reporting requirements), authority, duties, or responsibilities immediately before the change in control; (ii) any material reduction in the executive's salary, annual cash incentive award opportunities, benefits, or other compensation; (iii) the relocation of the executive's principal place of business by more than 50 miles from his or her previous place of business; or (iv) any termination of the CIC Severance Plan (or the executive's participation therein) other than by its express terms. Regardless of whether a change in control had occurred, an executive would not be entitled to payments under the CIC Severance Plan if he or she was terminated for cause. A termination of an executive generally would be for cause if it was due to (i) the willful and continued refusal of the executive to substantially perform his or her employment duties following written notification by Rayonier Advanced Materials' Board of Directors; or (ii) engagement of the executive in illegal conduct or gross misconduct that is demonstrably injurious to the Company, including an indictment or charge by any prosecuting agency with the commission of a felony.

The Company may condition payment of a portion of an executive's severance benefits under the CIC Severance Plan upon his or her agreement to adhere to confidentiality covenants, as well as to refrain from disparaging the Company (subject to certain limitations as required by law) or its products; competing directly with the Company; or inducing certain employees to terminate employment or service with the Company. These covenants would generally remain in effect for the shorter of one year from the executive's termination or two years following a CIC, except that the confidentiality covenants would remain in effect for the longer of two years from the executive's termination or three years following a CIC. By accepting the conditioned payments, an executive will be deemed to have consented to the issuance of a temporary restraining order to maintain the status quo pending the outcome of any equitable proceeding that may be brought by Rayonier Advanced Materials to enforce such covenants.

Unless otherwise indicated, all cash payments would be made by the Company in a lump sum, although the timing of some payments and benefits may be delayed by six months after termination in accordance with IRC Section 409A, which regulates deferred compensation. The Company has established two rabbi trusts related to the CIC Severance Plan. One is designed to defray the legal costs incurred by the executives in enforcing their rights under the CIC Severance Plan if the Company does not meet its obligations. The Company has funded \$3,039,748.30 to this trust. If there is a CIC of the Company, the Company would transfer to the second trust an amount sufficient to satisfy the cash payments that would be required to be paid in the event of a qualifying termination of executives covered under the CIC Severance Plan.

# **CEO PAY RATIO**

The annual total compensation of our median-paid employee on a worldwide basis for 2022 was \$90,028. The annual total compensation of our CEO for 2022, as reported in the 2022 Summary Compensation Table, was \$3,164,731; however, we used his annual salary instead of the partial year included in the table which yielded an annual total compensation of \$3,574,453. The ratio of our CEO's total compensation to our median employee's total compensation was 40 to 1, which is calculated by dividing the CEO's annual total compensation by that of our median-paid employee.

In accordance with SEC rules, we have used the same median employee who was identified for the 2021 disclosure. An analysis was conducted using payroll records to confirm the employee population remained consistent with the prior year reporting. There have been no changes to compensation arrangements the Company reasonably believes would result in a significant change to its pay ratio disclosure. A re-calculation of the median employee's 2022 annual total compensation was conducted as required. As the CEO salary included in the 2022 Summary Compensation Table is only a partial year, we have used the annual salary to reflect a full year's pay.

We believe the CEO pay ratio is a reasonable estimate calculated in a manner consistent with SEC rules based on our payroll and employment records and the methodology described above. The pay ratio reported by other companies may not be comparable to ours, as other companies may have different employment and compensation practices and may use different methodologies in calculating their pay ratios.



# **PAY VERSUS PERFORMANCE**

Provided below is the Company's "pay versus performance" disclosure as required pursuant to Item 402(v) of Regulation S-K promulgated under the Exchange Act. As required by Item 402(v), we have included:

- A list of the most important financial measures that our Compensation Committee used in 2022 to link a measure of pay calculated in accordance with Item 402(v) (referred to as "compensation actually paid," or "CAP") to Company performance;
- A table that compares the total compensation of our CEO and other NEOs as presented in the SCT in this Proxy Statement to CAP and that compares CAP to specified performance measures; and
- Graphs that describe:
  - o The relationship between our total shareholder return ("TSR") and the TSR of the S&P 600 Materials Index ("Peer Group TSR"); and
  - o The relationships between CAP and our cumulative TSR, GAAP Net Income, and our Company selected measure, Adjusted EBITDA.

This disclosure had been prepared in accordance with Item 402(v) and does not necessarily reflect value actually realized by the NEOs or how our Compensation Committee evaluates compensation decisions in light of Company or individual performance. In particular, our Compensation Committee has not used CAP as a basis for making compensation decisions, nor does it use GAAP Net Income for purposes of determining incentive compensation. Please refer to our CD&A in this Proxy Statement for a discussion of our executive compensation program objectives and the ways in which we align executive compensation pay with performance.

Salary, Bonus, Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation, Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings and All Other Compensation are each calculated in the same manner for purposes of both CAP and SCT. There are two primary differences between the calculation of CAP and SCT total compensation:

	SCT TOTAL	САР
Pension	Year over year change in the actuarial present value of pension benefits	Current year service cost and any prior year service cost (if a plan amendment occurred during the year)
Stock and Option Awards	Grant date fair value of stock and option awards granted during the year	Year over year change in the fair value of stock and option awards that are unvested as of the end of the year or vested or were forfeited during the year. <sup>(1)</sup>

(1) Includes any dividends paid on equity awards in the fiscal year prior to the vesting date that are not otherwise reflected in the fair value of such award.

**Metrics Used for Linking Pay and Performance**. The following is a list of financial performance measures, which in our assessment represent the most important financial performance measures used by the Company to link compensation actually paid to the NEOs for 2022. Each metric below is used for purposes of determining payouts under either our annual incentive program or vesting of our performance stock units. Please see the CD&A for a further description of these metrics and how they are used in the Company's executive compensation program.

- Adjusted EBITDA
- EBITDA Margin
- Relative TSR

Collared Business EBITDA was the most heavily-weighted financial performance metric under our 2022 Annual Incentive Plan and is an important top-line measure that, when combined with the other measures in the Annual Incentive Plan and performance share unit awards, support long-term shareholder value creation. This internal metric is closely aligned with Adjusted EBITDA which is the Company-selected measure included in the table and graphs that follow.

**Pay Versus Performance Table.** Below is the tabular disclosure for the Company's CEO and the average of our NEOs other than the CEO for 2022, 2021 and 2020.

		ARY COMPENS		COMPENSATION ACTUALLY PAID TO CEO(2)				VALUE OF INITIAL FIXED \$100 INVESTMENT BASED ON:		NET	ADJUSTED EBITDA	
Year	BLOOMQUIST	CONSIGLIO	BOYNTON	BLOOMQUIST	CONSIGLIO	BOYNTON	FOR NON-PEO NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	TO NON-PEO NAMED	TOTAL SHAREHOLDER RETURN(3)		INCOME (LOSS) (H) (\$MILLIONS)	[COMPANY SELECTED MEASURE] (\$MILLIONS)(4)
2022	3,164,731	7,992,927	-	6,344,838	5,047,378	-	1,641,145	2,800,039	250	136	(14.919)	177
2021	-	-	5,665,507	-	-	3,806,923	1,336,480	926,166	149	145	66.414	127
2020	-	-	5,579,824	-	-	8,221,626	829,928	1,631,787	170	123	0.555	100

(1) For 2022, CEOs were De Lyle Bloomquist and Vito Consiglio (former); other NEOs were Marcus Moeltner, Joshua Hicks, William Manzer and James Posze. For 2021, the CEO was Paul Boynton (former); other NEOs included Marcus Moeltner, Joshua Hicks, William Manzer and James Posze. For 2020, the CEO was Paul Boynton (former), other NEOs were Marcus Moeltner, Frank Ruperto (former), William Manzer and James Posze. Mr. Consiglio's SCT amount includes severance payments under the Executive Severance Plan; he did not receive any additional or enhanced benefits beyond those which he was contractually entitled.

(2) The dollar amounts reported represent CAP, as computed in accordance with SEC rules. The fair value of option awards was determined using a Black-Sholes option-pricing model. The dollar amounts do not reflect the actual amount of compensation earned by or paid during the applicable year. In accordance with SEC rules, the following adjustments were made to SCT total compensation to determine the CAP values:

## **CEO Reconciliation Table:**

	SCT TOTAL FOR	MINUS SCT CHANGE IN PENSION VALUE	PLUS PENSION VALUE SERVICE	MINUS SCT EQUITY	PLUS EOY FAIR VALUE OF EQUITY AWARDS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR THAT ARE OUTSTANDING AND UNVESTED AT	PLUS CHANGE FROM BOY TO EOY IN FAIR VALUE OF AWARDS GRANTED IN ANY PRIOR FISCAL YEAR THAT ARE OUTSTANDING AND UNVESTED	PLUS CHANGE IN FAIR VALUE FROM BOY TO VESTING DATE OF AWARDS GRANTED IN ANY PRIOR FISCAL YEAR THAT VESTED DURING THE	
FISCAL YEAR	CEO	FOR CEO	COST	FOR CEO	EOY	AT EOY	FISCAL YEAR	CEO CAP
2022: Bloomquist	3,164,731	0	0	1,681,313	4,861,420	0	0	6,344,838
2022: Consiglio	7,992,927	0	0	2,945,549	0	0	0	5,047,378
2021: Boynton	5,665,507	482,722	692,856	2,683,305	1,424,287	(1,724,836)	915,136	3,806,923
2020: Boynton	5,579,824	2,284,996	637,218	1,069,501	4,728,795	958,644	(328,358)	8,221,626

#### "EOY" = End of Year and "BOY" = Beginning of Year

	SCT TOTAL	MINUS SCT CHANGE IN PENSION VALUE FOR	PLUS PENSION VALUE	MINUS SCT EQUITY FOR	PLUS EOY FAIR VALUE OF EQUITY AWARDS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR THAT ARE OUTSTANDING AND	PLUS CHANGE FROM BOY TO EOY IN FAIR VALUE OF AWARDS GRANTED IN ANY PRIOR FISCAL YEAR THAT ARE OUTSTANDING AND	PLUS CHANGE IN FAIR VALUE FROM BOY TO VESTING DATE OF AWARDS GRANTED IN ANY PRIOR FISCAL YEAR THAT VESTED	AVERAGE
FISCAL YEAR	FOR AVERAGE OTHER NEOS	AVERAGE OTHER NEOS	SERVICE COST	AVERAGE OTHER NEOS	UNVESTED AT EOY	UNVESTED AT EOY	DURING THE FISCAL YEAR	OTHER NEOS CAP
2022	1,641,145	0	0	780,079	1,456,652	457,703	24,618	2,800,039
2021	1,336,480	0	0	628,263	456,337	(288,141)	49,753	926,166
2020	829,928	0	0	211,313	934,317	121,226	(42,371)	1,631,787



#### "EOY" = End of Year and "BOY" = Beginning of Year

- (3) Reflects TSR indexed to \$100 for the S&P 600 Materials Index, which is an industry line peer group reported in the performance graph included in the Company's 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K.
- (4) Reconcilliations of GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures are provided in Appendix F.

**Relationship between Company TSR and Peer Group TSR and CAP and Company TSR.** The graphs below illustrate the relationship between our TSR and the Peer Group TSR, as well as the relationship between CAP and our TSR for the CEO and the other NEOs. For reference, SCT total compensation values for each year are also shown. As the graphs below illustrate, CAP amounts for our CEO and other NEOs are aligned with the Company's TSR, as intended. The graph below also illustrates the relationship between our TSR and the Peer Group TSR.



#### **CEO Pay versus Performance: Total Shareholder Return**

**Relationship between CAP and GAAP Net Income.** The graph reflects the relationship between the CEO and Average Other NEO CAP and our GAAP Net Income. GAAP Net Income is not used as a metric in our annual or long-term incentive plans.



#### **CEO Pay versus Performance: Net Income**

**Relationship between CAP and Adjusted EBITDA (our Company-Selected Measure).** The graph below reflects the relationship between CEO and Average Other NEO CAP and Adjusted EBITDA. Collared Business EBITDA determined 60% of business funding under our 2022 Annual Incentive Plan and is an important measure that, when combined with the other measures in the Annual Incentive Plan and equity incentive program awards, support long-term shareholder value creation. This internal metric is closely aligned with our Company Selected Metric, Adjusted EBITDA. The graph below reflects the relationship between the CEO and Average Other NEO CAP and our Adjusted EBITDA for each year.



## **CEO Pay versus Performance: Adjusted EBITDA**

(1) Reconcilliations of GAAP to non-GAAP financial measures are provided in Appendix F.



# STOCK OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following table shows the Common Stock beneficially owned as of March 15, 2023, by each of the Company's directors, each of the NEOs and all directors and executive officers as a group. Unless otherwise indicated, all Common Stock listed below is owned directly by the named individual:

		OWNERSHIP		
NAME OF BENEFICIAL OWNER	COMMON STOCK BENEFICIALLY OWNED <sup>(1)</sup>	EXERCISABLE STOCK OPTIONS <sup>(2)</sup>	TOTAL COMMON STOCK AND EXERCISABLE STOCK OPTIONS	PERCENT OF CLASS
Charles E. Adair	78,591	-	78,591	*
De Lyle W. Bloomquist	94,769	-	94,769	*
Julie A. Dill	93,261	-	93,261	*
Charles R. Eggert	-	-	-	*
James F. Kirsch	74,065	-	74,065	*
David C. Mariano	862,752	-	862,752	1.33%
Thomas I. Morgan	74,409	-	74,409	*
Lisa M. Palumbo	98,902	-	98,902	*
Ivona Smith	32,752	-	32,752	*
Joshua C. Hicks	49,595	-	49,595	*
William R. Manzer	194,073 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,390	195,463	*
Marcus J. Moeltner	80,597	-	80,597	*
James L. Posze, Jr.	186,298 <sup>(3)</sup>	2,163	188,461	*
Directors and executive officers as a group (18 persons) <sup>(4)</sup>	2,040,886(3)	4,400	2,045,286	3.14%

\* Indicates that the percentage of beneficial ownership of the director or executive officer does not exceed one percent of the class.

(1) Does not include shares of our common stock underlying outstanding unvested RSU awards as follows: Messrs. Adair, Kirsch, Mariano and Morgan and Ms. Dill, Ms. Palumbo and Ms. Smith, 22,116 shares each; Mr. Eggert, 19,810 shares; Mr. Bloomquist, 248,869 shares; Mr. Hicks, 121,840 shares; Mr. Manzer, 58,499 shares; Mr. Moeltner, 93,495; Mr. Posze, 56,449 shares; and all directors and executive officers as a group, 901,621 shares. These awards will not vest and become beneficially owned within 60 days.

(2) Pursuant to SEC regulations, stock receivable through the exercise of employee stock options that are exercisable within 60 days after March 15, 2023 are deemed to be beneficially owned as of March 15, 2023.

(3) Includes the following shares allocated under the 401(k) Plan to the accounts of: Mr. Manzer, 6,318 shares; Mr. Posze, 1,012 shares; and all directors and executive officers as a group, 8,625 shares.

(4) Directors and executive officers are not permitted to pledge any shares of our Common Stock under our policies; to our knowledge, none have done so.

# **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Our executive officers are elected by the Board of Directors and hold office as determined by the Board. The information set forth below includes the name, age, position held with us and principal occupation and employment during at least the past five years for each of our current executive officers who are not also serving as directors, as of March 15, 2023. (Mr. Bloomquist's biography appears in the Biographical and Qualifications Information of the Three Nominees for Election to the Board of Directors section.) There is no family relationship between any of our executive officers or directors. There are no arrangements or understandings between any of our executive officers and any other person pursuant to which any of them was appointed or elected as an officer or director, other than arrangements or understandings with our directors or officers acting solely in their capacities as such.

**Kenneth J. Duffy**, 59, Vice President, Commercial–Mr. Duffy joined the Company in November 2017 as Vice President, Sales & Marketing, High Yield Pulp, in connection with the Company's acquisition of Tembec Inc., and was promoted to his current position on May 1, 2021. He joined Tembec in 2011 as Vice President, Sales, Paper Pulp and was promoted to Vice President, Sales & Marketing, High Yield Pulp and Newsprint on March 22, 2016. Prior to joining Tembec, Mr. Duffy held various sales and technical service positions of increasing responsibility in the specialty chemicals sector. Mr. Duffy holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Chemical Engineering) degree from the University of Toronto.

**Gabriela Garcia**, 48, Chief Accounting Officer and Vice President, Controller–Ms. Garcia was most recently the Controller for Nexeo Plastics Parent Inc. located in Houston, TX, a position she held from July 2019 to February 2020. Previously, she was the Assistant Controller and Controller for Nexeo Solutions Inc. from July 2012 to June 2019. Ms. Garcia also has approximately 23 years of progressive accounting experience working for firms such as Harken Energy Corporation, Reliant Energy, Inc., Air Liquide USA, LLC, Marathon Oil Company, and Geokinetics, Inc. Ms. Garcia is a Certified Public Accountant with an undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Arlington in marketing, a MS degree in accounting from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, and an MBA from Houston Baptist University.

**Joshua C. Hicks,** 44, Senior Vice President, High Purity Cellulose Business–Mr. Hicks joined the Company on December 6, 2021 as Senior Vice President, High Purity Cellulose Business. He was most recently Vice President, Global Industrial Solutions for Univar Solutions from 2020 to 2021, and prior to that Vice President, Focused Industries from 2019 to 2020. Prior to that, Mr. Hicks served as Business Director, Coatings & Construction from 2017 to 2019, Business Director, Personal Care from 2015 to 2017, and Business Director, Oil & Gas from 2013 to 2015 for Nexeo Solutions, which was acquired by Univar in 2019. Prior to his tenure with Nexeo and Univar, Mr. Hicks held positions of increasing responsibility with Dow Chemical in multiple business units. Mr. Hicks holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Brigham Young University and an MBA from Rice University Jones Graduate School of Business.

**William R. Manzer**, 65, Executive Vice President, Manufacturing Operations–Mr. Manzer joined Rayonier Inc. as Vice President, Manufacturing Operations in January 2011, a position he held until June 2014. Following our 2014 spinoff from Rayonier Inc., Mr. Manzer was elected Vice President, Manufacturing Operations of the Company, Senior Vice President, Manufacturing Operations on May 16, 2016 and to his current position on May 19, 2021. Prior to joining Rayonier Inc., from September 2001 to December 2010, he was employed in various senior manufacturing roles for Fraser Papers (a manufacturer of specialized printing, publishing and converting papers) and most recently served as their Senior Vice President, Business Strategy and Projects. Previously, Mr. Manzer worked from January 1991 to August 2001 for Champion International and from June 1980 until December 1991 for Fraser Papers in various pulp and paper manufacturing roles. His responsibilities have included various roles at pulp and paper mills in the US and Canada. Mr. Manzer holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Maine, Orono.

Anthony R. Matthews, 43, Vice President-Supply Chain–Mr. Matthews joined Rayonier Inc. as Accounting Analyst and Purchasing Coordinator in October 2003 and held various financial roles of increasing responsibility, including


Controller, Jesup Mill, a position he held from October 2011 until June 2014, when the Company was spun-off from Rayonier Inc. In June 2014, Mr. Matthews was appointed Controller, Performance Fibers. In March 2017, he was appointed Senior Director, Finance and in February 2019, he was elected to his current position. Mr. Matthews holds a B.S in Business Administration, Accounting from the University of Central Florida.

**Marcus J. Moeltner,** 59, Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President, Finance–Mr. Moeltner joined the Company in November 2017 at its headquarters in Jacksonville, Florida, as Vice President, Corporate Development and Planning, in connection with the Company's acquisition of Tembec Inc., and was promoted to his current position on July 8, 2019. He had rejoined Tembec in May 2008 as Vice President, Corporate Development. From 2005 to 2008, Mr. Moeltner was Vice President, Finance for Grant Forest Products Inc., a Canadian forest products producer, where he was responsible for leading a team responsible for financial analysis, treasury, cost accounting, risk management, and taxation across its business operations. From 2000 to 2004, Mr. Moeltner held various roles at Tembec, including Director, Business Planning, and Vice President, Business Analysis and Control. Mr. Moeltner began his professional career with Kimberly-Clark Corporation in 1987 and, during his tenure there, held various finance positions of increasing responsibility in Canada, France, England, and the United States. Mr. Moeltner holds an Honors Bachelor of Commerce degree from Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario. He is also a CPA, CMA receiving his accreditation in Ontario.

James L. Posze, Jr., 58, Chief Administrative Officer and Senior Vice President, Human Resources–From October 2010 to March 2013, Mr. Posze was Vice President, Human Resources at Rayonier Inc. and was promoted to Senior Vice President, Human Resources in March 2013, a position he held until June 2014. Following our 2014 spinoff from Rayonier Inc., Mr. Posze was elected Senior Vice President, Human Resources and to his current position for the Company on February 16, 2021. Prior to joining Rayonier Inc., Mr. Posze was with Albemarle Corporation (a manufacturer of polymers and fine chemicals), where he served as Global Director, Human Resources for more than eight years. Mr. Posze holds a bachelor's degree in management from Western Kentucky University.

**Christian Antoine Lucien Ribeyrolle**, 61, Vice President, Biomaterials and President, Rayonier A.M. France SAS– Mr. Ribeyrolle joined the Company in 2017 following the acquisition of Tembec Inc. Prior to the acquisition, Mr. Ribeyrolle was Executive Vice President, Specialty Cellulose of Tembec and President, Tembec France SAS. Mr. Ribeyrolle joined Tembec in February 2003 as Manager of the pulp facility in Tartas, France and held that position until 2008. On January 1, 2008, he was promoted to the position of Director of Sales, Specialty Cellulose and on October 1, 2008 became Senior Vice President, Specialty Cellulose. On February 22, 2013, he was named Executive Vice President, Specialty Cellulose and President, Tembec France SAS. Following the acquisition of Tembec, Mr. Ribeyrolle was appointed Vice President, Manufacturing Center of Excellence and President, Rayonier A.M. France SAS on March 15, 2019, Vice President, Commercial-Manufacturing Liaison on March 26, 2019 and on November 1, 2021, Mr. Ribeyrolle was elected to his current position. Mr. Ribeyrolle holds a chemical engineering degree from l'École Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Clermont-Ferrand in France.

**R. Colby Slaughter**, 45, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary–Mr. Slaughter joined Rayonier Inc. in January 2013 as Senior Counsel, a position he held until June 2014. Following our 2014 spinoff from Rayonier Inc., he was appointed to the same position at the Company. In May 2016 he was appointed Assistant General Counsel. Effective March 21, 2020, he was elected Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Company and on September 1, 2022 he was elected Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. Prior to joining Rayonier Inc., Mr. Slaughter was an Associate with the law firm of K&L Gates LLP from 2007 to 2013. Mr. Slaughter holds a B.S. in Business Management from Brigham Young University and a JD from the University of Virginia School of Law.

# SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS

The following table shows the holdings of persons known to us to beneficially own more than five percent of the Company's outstanding Common Stock as of December 31, 2022.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF BENEFICIAL OWNER	AMOUNT AND NATURE OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP	PERCENT OF CLASS
BlackRock, Inc. 55 East 52nd Street New York, NY 10055	10,164,458(1)	15.9%
Condire Management, LP 1717 McKinney Ave. Suite 850 Dallas, TX 75202	6,224,420 <sup>(2)</sup>	9.7%
The Vanguard Group 100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355	4,332,155 <sup>(3)</sup>	6.77%
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP 6300 Bee Cave Road Building One Austin, TX 78746	4,192,810 <sup>(4)</sup>	6.6%

(1) Aggregated holdings and percent of class as of December 31, 2022, as reported to the SEC on Schedule 13G/A on January 23, 2023, indicating sole voting power over 10,084,564 shares of Common Stock; and sole dispositive power over 10,164,458 shares of Common Stock.

(2) Aggregated holdings and percent of class as of December 31, 2022, as reported to the SEC on Schedule 13G on February 14, 2023, by Condire Management, LP and its general partner, Condire Management GP Holdings, LLC, and the managing members of such general partner, Ryan E. Schedler and Bradley J. Shisler, indicating shared voting power and shared dispositive power over 6,224,420 shares of Common Stock.

- (3) Aggregated holdings and percent of class as of December 30, 2022, as reported to the SEC on Schedule 13G/A on February 9, 2023, indicating shared voting power over 33,322 shares of Common Stock; sole dispositive power over 4,276,727 shares of Common Stock; and shared dispositive power over 55,428 shares of Common Stock.
- (4) Aggregated holdings and percent of class as of December 30, 2022, as reported to the SEC on Schedule 13G on February 10, 2023, indicating sole voting power over 4,108,637 shares of Common Stock; and sole dispositive power over 4,192,810 shares of Common Stock.

## **DELINQUENT SECTION 16(A) REPORTS**

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires our directors and executive officers and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of our securities, to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of Common Stock and other equity securities of our Company. Based solely on a review of copies of such forms filed with respect to fiscal year 2022 and the written representations received from certain reporting persons that no other reports were required, we believe that all directors, executive officers and persons who own more than 10% of the Company's outstanding Common Stock have complied with the reporting requirements of Section 16(a) except with respect to a Form 4 that was filed late due to an administrative error, reporting the award of Restricted Stock Units to Mr. Eggert on October 19, 2022.



# COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INDEPENDENCE; COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

Ms. Dill and Ms. Palumbo and each of Messrs. Adair, Bloomquist and Morgan served as a member of our Compensation and Management Development Committee (the Compensation Committee) during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022. The Board has determined in its business judgment that, during the time each member served on the Compensation Committee, that each member was independent within the meaning of the SEC and NYSE rules and the Director Independence Standards adopted by the Board as part of the CGPs. Note that Mr. Bloomquist served on the Compensation Committee prior to his election as President and Chief Executive Officer and was determined to be independent at that time. No member of the Compensation Committee served as one of our officers or employees at any time during 2022, except Mr. Bloomquist, who was removed from the Compensation Committee upon his appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer or engaged in any related person transaction or relationship required to be disclosed in this Proxy Statement. None of our executive officers serve, or served during 2022, as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of a public company that has at least one of its executive officer serving on the Board or Compensation Committee.

# Proposal 5 – Advisory Vote to Approve the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan

Stockholders are being asked to approve the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan, as approved by our Board of Directors on March 16, 2023 (the "2023 Plan"), subject to stockholder approval.

We currently maintain our Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2021 Incentive Stock Plan (the "Prior Plan"). The number of shares remaining available under the Prior Plan is insufficient to meet the Company's compensation goals, and certain awards have been granted under the 2023 Plan subject to stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan, as described below. To ensure that the Company has an adequate number of shares available for compensation to its directors, executive officers and other employees, we are asking our stockholders to approve the 2023 Plan.

Under the 2023 Plan, the number of shares of common stock available for issuance to eligible directors, officers and employees will be 3,922,953 shares which includes 2,321,000 new shares requested, in addition to the 1,601,953 remaining from the Prior Plan less one share for every share subject to an award granted under the Prior Plan between March 10, 2023 and the date of stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan, and subject to stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan. The Board and Compensation and Management Development Committee (the "Compensation Committee") approved this share reserve based on the considerations outlined below. The terms of the 2023 Plan remain consistent with those of the Prior Plan and incorporate the key governance highlights summarized below.

The 2023 Plan will be effective upon its approval by the Company's stockholders at our Annual Meeting on May 17, 2023.

# Outstanding Awards under the Prior Plan and Determination of Share Reserve for the 2023 Plan

The following table presents information about the number of shares that were subject to various outstanding equity awards under the Prior Plan and the shares remaining available for issuance under the Prior Plan and shares remaining available for issuance under the Prior Plan. On March 10, 2023, the total number of shares outstanding was 65,109,588.

	AS OF 3/10/2023
Number of outstanding stock options as of March 10, 2023	53,254
Weighted average exercise price of the outstanding stock options as of March 10, 2023	\$ 35.94
Weighted average remaining contractual term of the outstanding stock options as of March 10, 2023	0.82 years
Number of outstanding shares of restricted stock and stock units as of March 10, 2023	1,444,045
Number of outstanding performance shares (at target) as of March 10, 2023	
Number of shares remaining available for issuance under the Prior Plan as of March 10, 2023	1,601,953
Proposed number of shares available for issuance under the 2023 Plan <sup>(1)</sup>	

As may be (i) decreased as a result of awards granted under the Prior Plan between March 10, 2023 and the date of stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan and (ii) increased for awards granted under the 2023 Plan and the Prior Plan or that are forfeited, terminated, expire unexercised, settled in cash in lieu of stock or released from a reserve for failure to meet maximum payout after the effective date of the 2023 Plan . As described below, awards covering 238,155 shares were granted under the 2023 Plan in March 2023 subject to stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan.



In determining whether to approve the 2023 Plan, including the share reserve under the 2023 Plan, the Board and the Compensation Committee considered the following:

- If the 2023 Plan is not approved, we will not have sufficient shares available under the Prior Plan to make equitybased compensation awards to our directors and executive officers.
- We expect the proposed share reserve under the 2023 Plan to provide us with enough shares for awards for approximately four years. This expectation assumes that we continue to grant annual equity awards under the long-term incentive program consistent with our current practices and historical usage with respect to such annual awards (not taking into account new hire grants) and is dependent on our stock price as well as hiring activity during the next few years and forfeitures of outstanding awards under the 2023 Plan and the Prior Plan. We cannot predict our future equity grant practices, the future price of our stock or future hiring activity with any degree of certainty at this time, so the share reserve under the 2023 Plan could last for a shorter or longer time.
- The potential dilution to our stockholders that may result from the issuance of shares of common stock pursuant to outstanding awards and awards to be issued under the 2023 Plan: Our fully-diluted overhang rate as of March 10, 2023 (calculated by dividing (x) the number of shares of common stock subject to equity awards outstanding *plus* shares of common stock remaining available for issuance for future awards by (y) the number of shares of common stock subject to equity awards of shares of common stock outstanding *plus* x (the sum of the number of shares of common stock subject to equity awards outstanding plus the remaining shares available for issuance) was 6.3%. Our overhang rate as of March 10, 2023, on a pro forma basis, assuming that the additional 2,321,000 share reserve under the 2023 Plan was authorized as of that date and shares remaining available for future issuance under the Prior Plan were cancelled, would have been 9.9%.
- Analysis by our compensation consultant, which was based on generally accepted evaluation methodologies used by proxy advisory firms, that the number of shares to be reserved under the 2023 Plan is within generally accepted standards as measured by an analysis of the 2023 Plan cost relative to industry standards.

In light of the factors described above, and the fact that the ability to continue to grant equity compensation is vital to our ability to continue to attract and retain highly qualified executives and employees, the Board has determined that the size of the share reserve under the 2023 Plan is reasonable and appropriate at this time.

## Key Governance Highlights of the 2023 Plan

- No automatic vesting of equity-based awards upon a change in control (so-called "single trigger" vesting) unless outstanding awards are not assumed by the surviving entity
- Recycling of shares back into the share reserve only occurs in the event of forfeiture or cancellations of outstanding awards and other similar events listed below under "Key Terms of the 2023 Plan – Share Reserve"
- · Minimum one-year vesting period for all awards subject to certain limited carve-outs
- · Prohibition on payment of dividends while an award is unvested
- Awards are subject to potential reduction, cancellation, forfeiture or other clawback in certain circumstances
- No repricing of stock options or stock appreciation rights without stockholder approval
- No discounted options may be granted
- A limit on the amount of equity and cash compensation that may be paid to each of our non-employee directors in a given calendar year
- · Stockholder approval is required for all material amendments in accordance with applicable law
- Provides for administration by our independent Compensation Committee

### Key Terms of the 2023 Plan

The following is a summary of the key provisions of the 2023 Plan. Some of these provisions are described in greater detail below, and the summary and descriptions are qualified in their entirety by reference to the full text of the 2023 Plan included in Appendix D attached hereto.

Purpose	Attract and retain highly qualified employees and directors; motivate and reward performance that will lead to sustained increases in stockholder value; increase participants' interest in our long-term success and commitment to creating stockholder value
Eligible Participants	Any individual who is an employee or non-employee director of the Company
Award Types	Stock options, stock appreciation rights ("SARs"), restricted stock, restricted stock units ("RSUs"), cash-based awards, and performance shares
Proposed Share Reserve	<ul> <li>3,922,953 shares –</li> <li>less one share for every share subject to an award granted under the Prior Plan between March 10, 2023 and the date of stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan, and</li> <li>as may be increased by any shares of common stock subject to awards under the 2023 Plan</li> </ul>
Annual Limit on Director Equity and Cash Compensation	Total equity and cash compensation of no more than \$400,000
Plan Term	The 2023 Plan will expire on the tenth anniversary of the effective date.

#### **Stockholder Approval Requirement**

In general, stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan is necessary in order for the Company to meet the stockholder approval requirements of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and grant stock options that qualify as incentive stock options under IRC Section 422.

# **SUMMARY OF THE 2023 PLAN**

#### **Administration**

The Committee, or such other committee as designated by the Board, will administer the 2023 Plan with the authority to, among other things, interpret the plan, determine eligibility for, grant and determine the terms of awards, and to do all things necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions and purposes of the 2023 Plan. Awards granted under the 2023 Plan will be subject to a minimum vesting period of at least one year subject to limited carve-outs. Awards to non-employee directors, which may include stock options, restricted shares or RSUs, will be administered by the Board. The Compensation Committee may delegate certain of its powers and authority, as it deems appropriate, with respect to awards to participants who are not executive officers or non-employee directors of the Company.

## **Types of Awards**

**Restricted Stock and RSUs.** Restricted stock is one or more shares of common stock awarded to grantees subject to restrictions determined by the Compensation Committee. An RSU is a contractual right that entitles the grantee to receive shares of common stock (or cash, in the Compensation Committee's discretion) at a future date subject to terms and conditions determined by the Compensation Committee. The restriction period and vesting restrictions, which may include time-based and/or performance-based vesting criteria, will be determined by the Compensation Committee stock carry voting rights; RSUs do not.

The Compensation Committee may provide that restricted stock and RSU awards earn dividends or dividend equivalents. Any such dividends or dividend equivalents will be accumulated and credited to an account for the participant, settled in cash or stock as determined by the Compensation Committee upon or following vesting of the award, and will be subject to the same terms and conditions, including vesting restrictions, as the underlying award.



Except as otherwise provided in the award agreement or by the Compensation Committee, if a grantee terminates employment for any reason, any unvested restricted stock and RSUs held by the grantee will be forfeited. In the event of death, disability, retirement or other special circumstances, the Compensation Committee may determine to waive the restrictions with respect to unvested awards.

**Stock Options and SARs.** Options granted under the 2023 Plan may be either non-qualified stock options or incentive stock options qualifying for special tax treatment under IRC Section 422. The exercise price of any stock option may not be less than the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The term of non-qualified stock options and incentive stock options may not exceed ten years from the date of grant.

SARs may be granted to employees on a stand-alone basis or in tandem with stock options. The exercise of a SAR will entitle the holder to receive cash or shares of common stock (or a combination of cash and stock) having a value equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares of common stock on the date of exercise over the exercise price of the SAR.

Unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee, options and SARs are treated as follows upon termination of a participant's employment: Upon retirement or termination due to disability, all unvested options/ SARs held by a participant vest and remain exercisable for a period of five years or until any earlier expiration. Upon a participant's death, unvested options/SARs are forfeited and vested options/SARs remain exercisable for a period of five years or until any earlier expiration. Upon a participant's termination for cause, all options/SARs held by the participant are forfeited. Upon termination for any other reason, all unvested options/SARs are forfeited and vested options/SARs remain exercisable for a period of six months or until any earlier expiration.

**Cash-Based Awards.** The Compensation Committee is authorized to grant awards denominated in cash, subject to such terms and conditions as it may determine. Each cash-based award will specify a payment amount, payment range or a value determined with respect to the fair market value of our stock, as determined by the Compensation Committee.

**Performance Shares.** The Compensation Committee is authorized to award under the 2023 Plan performancebased RSUs (or "performance shares") that vest subject to the satisfaction of performance-based criteria as determined by the Compensation Committee. Any dividends or dividend equivalents accumulated and credited with respect to a performance-based award will be subject to the same terms and conditions, including vesting restrictions, as the underlying award, and no dividends or dividend equivalents will be paid on unvested awards.

The performance objectives of performance shares will be determined by the Compensation Committee in writing prior to, or reasonably promptly following the inception of, a performance period. The performance objectives for performance shares will be based on the achievement of one or more of the following business criteria measured over the specified performance period:

- net income or net earnings (before or after taxes)
- earnings per share
- operating income
- operating cash flow
- free cash flow
- cash available for distribution
- revenue growth
- earnings before income taxes and depreciation
- earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization
- margins (including but not limited to gross or operating margins)
- reductions in operating expenses

- sales or return on sales
- stock price (including, but not limited to, growth measures and total stockholder return)
- return measures (including but not limited to return on equity, return on total capital, return on invested capital and return on assets)
- · economic value added
- expense targets
- cost reductions and savings
- attainment of budget goals
- increase in surplus
- productivity improvements
- attainment of strategic or operational initiatives
- any other objective or subjective criteria determined by the Compensation Committee

A performance goal may also be based on an employee's attainment of personal objectives with respect to the foregoing criteria or other criteria, measured as objective goals, such as growth and profitability, customer satisfaction, market share, leadership effectiveness, business development, operational efficiency or operational improvement, strategic or operational initiatives, negotiating transactions and sales or developing long term business goals. Performance goals may be measured on a periodic, annual, cumulative or average basis; established on a corporate-wide basis or with respect to one or more operating units; or established in absolute terms, relative to performance in prior periods, compared to the performance of one or more peer companies or an index, or otherwise as the Compensation Committee may determine.

When establishing the performance objectives for an award, the Compensation Committee may provide that the evaluation of the objectives will exclude or otherwise equitably adjust for any specified circumstance or event that occurs during a performance period, including but not limited to, asset write-downs or impairment charges; reorganization and restructuring; acquisitions or divestitures; foreign exchange gains and losses; or any other unusual or infrequently occurring items or any other special or designated items, events or circumstances as the Compensation Committee may determine.

Following the completion of the performance period, the Compensation Committee will certify in writing as to whether the performance objectives and other material terms of the performance award have been achieved. The Compensation Committee may reduce or eliminate performance awards for any reason at any time. To the extent necessary to preserve the intended economic effects of the 2023 Plan, the Compensation Committee may also adjust the performance goals or awards to take into account a change in corporate capitalization, a corporate transaction, a partial or complete liquidation of the Company or a subsidiary, or a change in accounting or other relevant rules or regulations.

Except as otherwise provided in the award agreement or under a severance plan covering the participant, upon a participant's termination of employment during a performance period due to death, disability, retirement, or under other circumstances where the Compensation Committee finds that a waiver would be in the best interests of the Company, that participant may be entitled to payment of a performance-based award based on actual achievement of performance objectives during the full performance period, which award may be maintained without change or reduced and prorated. The Compensation Committee may also provide for an earlier payment in settlement of such performance-based award in such amount and under such terms and conditions as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate. If a participant terminates employment for any other reason, then the participant's outstanding performance-based award will be forfeited unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee.

## **Change in Control**

In the event of a change in control ("CIC"), if the surviving entity assumes or otherwise equitably converts or substitutes outstanding equity awards under the 2023 Plan, then those awards will then be subject to "double trigger" vesting. In other words, those awards will remain outstanding and vesting will accelerate only upon a qualifying termination event within two years following the CIC. Under the 2023 Plan, a qualifying termination is a termination without cause, other than for cause or due to death or disability, or for executives who participate in the executive CIC severance plan, any termination event specified under that plan.

In the event of a qualifying termination, a participant's outstanding stock options/SARs will vest in full and all restrictions on time-based restricted stock and RSUs will lapse. For performance-based awards where the performance period is more than half complete at the time of the CIC, the awards will be paid out at the greater of payout based on actual performance achievement; if applicable, based on the share price at the time of CIC; or the award at 100% of target. For performance-based awards where the performance period is less than half complete, the award would vest at 100% of target.

If outstanding awards under the 2023 Plan are not assumed or otherwise equitably converted or substituted by the surviving entity, then the awards will vest in the same manner as described above upon the occurrence of the CIC.



Under the 2023 Plan, "change in control" is generally defined as occurring when (i) an individual, entity or group acquires 30% or more of the Company's Stock or voting power, or (ii) when the Board's incumbent members cease to make up a majority of the Board, or (iii) upon consummation of a reorganization, merger, asset sale or other transaction, unless after such transaction, (A) the Company's stockholders prior to the transaction hold more than 50% of the ownership or voting power in the post-transaction entity, and (B) no person or group owns 30% or more of the post-transaction entity, and (C) at least 50% of the members of the board after the transaction were members of the Board before the transaction, or (iv) upon approval by the Company's stockholders of a complete liquidation or dissolution of the Company.

## **Adjustments for Certain Events**

In connection with any equity restructuring, including a stock dividend, stock split, spin-off or recapitalization, the Compensation Committee will equitably adjust the terms of the Plan, including the share reserve and individual award limits, and each outstanding Award as it deems appropriate.

In the event of certain corporate transactions or events, including a merger, consolidation, repurchase, the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company, a CIC or other unusual or nonrecurring transaction or event, or any change in any applicable law or accounting principles, the Compensation Committee is authorized to take any of the following actions as it deems appropriate to: (i) provide for the cancellation of any awards in exchange for cash or other property with a value equal to the amount that could have been obtained upon the exercise or settlement of the vested portion of such award (unless the amount that could have been obtained is equal to or less than zero, then the award may be terminated without payment); (ii) provide that awards will vest and, to the extent applicable, be exercisable; (iii) provide that awards be assumed or substituted by the surviving entity; (iv) make adjustments in the number and type of shares of stock and/or in the terms and conditions of outstanding awards; (v) replace awards with other rights or property selected by the Compensation Committee; and/or (vi) provide that awards will terminate.

## **Amendment or Termination**

The Board may at any time amend, modify, suspend or terminate the 2023 Plan, in whole or in part. Any such amendment, however, will be subject to stockholder approval if such approval is required under NYSE rules or applicable law, including any increase in the number of shares available for issuance under the 2023 Plan or any option repricing. No amendment, modification or termination of the 2023 Plan may in any manner adversely affect any previously granted award without the consent of the participant.

## **Restrictive Covenants; Clawback**

Except after a CIC, the exercise of any option or right and the receipt of any award is subject to the employee refraining from competitive activity for a specified period and refraining from acting in a manner contrary to the best interests of the Company.

Except following a CIC, if the employee terminates employment in breach of any covenants under the 2023 Plan and becomes employed by a competitor within one year after the date of exercise of any option or the receipt of any award, the employee must pay to the Company an amount equal to any gain from the exercise of the option or the value of the award, in each case measured by the amount reported as taxable compensation to the employee by the Company for federal income tax purposes.

# **CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL TAX CONSEQUENCES**

The following summary is intended as a general guide to the U.S. federal income tax consequences relating to the awards granted under the 2023 Plan based on applicable statutory provisions as of the date of this Proxy Statement, which are subject to change at any time and may vary in individual circumstances. Therefore, the following is designed to provide a general understanding of the federal income tax consequences but does not

attempt to describe all possible federal or other tax consequences of such grants or tax consequences based on particular circumstances. State, local, estate and other tax consequences are not addressed below.

**Restricted Stock, RSUs and Performance Shares.** With respect to restricted stock and RSUs, including performancebased RSUs (or "performance shares"), in general, no income is realized by the grantee at the time of grant.

When restrictions on restricted stock lapse, the grantee will be subject to tax at ordinary income rates on the amount by which the fair market value of the restricted stock at such time exceeds the amount (if any) paid for the award by the grantee. However, a grantee may elect under IRC Section 83(b) within 30 days after the date of receipt of the restricted stock to be taxed differently. In such a case (1) income is realized by the grantee at the time of grant in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of such shares of restricted stock at such time (determined without regard to any restrictions which apply to the shares of restricted stock) over the purchase price, if any, of the shares of common stock and (2) when the underlying shares of common stock are sold, the grantee will recognize capital gain or loss measured by the difference between the amount realized on the disposition and the basis of the restricted stock, which will equal the sum of the purchase price and the amount included in gross income under IRC Section 83(b).

With respect to RSUs and performance shares, the grantee will be subject to tax at ordinary income tax rates when the shares of common stock underlying the RSUs or performance shares are delivered to the grantee. Federal income tax will be calculated on the amount by which the fair market value of the stock at the time of delivery exceeds the amount (if any) paid for the award by the grantee. A grantee may not make an election under IRC Section 83(b) with respect to RSUs or performance shares.

With respect to a sale of restricted stock after the forfeiture period has expired, the holding period to determine whether the grantee has long-term or short-term capital gain or loss generally begins when the restrictions expire and the tax basis for such shares of stock will generally be based on the fair market value of such shares of stock on such date (except that an IRC Section 83(b) election will cause the holding period commencement and the tax basis to be determined as of the grant date). With respect to a sale of stock acquired under RSUs or performance shares, the holding period to determine whether the grantee has long-term or short-term capital gain or loss generally begins when the shares of stock were delivered to the grantee. For restricted stock, RSUs and performance shares, the Company generally will be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount that is taxable as ordinary income to the grantee.

**Non-Qualified Stock Options.** On the exercise of a non-qualified stock option, the optionee will recognize ordinary income for federal income tax purposes on the amount by which the fair market value of the stock on the date of exercise exceeds the exercise price of the option. The optionee will be taxed on this amount in the year of exercise, and the Company generally will be allowed a deduction in this amount for federal income tax purposes in the same year. When the optionee disposes of shares of common stock acquired on the exercise of a non-qualified stock option, any amount received in excess of the fair market value of such shares on the date of exercise will be treated as either a long-or short-term capital gain to the optionee, depending on the holding period of such shares. If the amount received is less than the market value of the shares of common stock on the date of exercise, the loss will be treated as either a long- or short-term capital loss, depending on the holding period of such shares.

**Incentive Stock Options.** On the exercise of an incentive stock option, no ordinary income will be recognized by the optionee, although the spread between the fair market value of the stock on the date of exercise over the exercise price of the option is an item of tax preference for purposes of the calculation of the optionee's alternative minimum tax. If the optionee holds the shares of stock for over one year after the date of exercise and two years from the date of grant, then on the sale of the shares of stock (i) the excess of the sale proceeds over the aggregate exercise price of the option will be long-term capital gain to the optionee, and (ii) the Company will not be entitled to a tax deduction under such circumstances. Generally if the optionee sells or otherwise disposes of the shares of stock within one year after the date of exercise, the excess of the fair market value of such shares at the time of exercise over the aggregate exercise price (but generally not more than the amount of gain realized on the disposition) will be ordinary income to the optionee at the time of such disposition. This is sometimes referred to as a "disqualifying disposition." The Company generally will be entitled to a federal tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the optionee upon a disqualifying disposition.

**Stock Appreciation Rights.** With respect to SARs, in general, no income is realized by the grantee at the time the SAR is granted. Generally, at exercise, the grantee will be required to include as ordinary income an amount equal to the fair market value of any shares of stock received on the exercise, and the Company may be entitled to a federal income tax deduction equal to the amount of income taxed to the grantee.



**Cash-Based Awards.** A grantee will not recognize income, and the Company will not be allowed a tax deduction, at the time a cash-based award is granted (for example, when the performance goals are established). Upon receipt of cash in settlement of the award, a grantee will recognize ordinary income equal to the cash received, and the Company will be allowed a corresponding federal income tax deduction at that time.

# **PLAN BENEFITS**

There were approximately 3,800 employees, including 10 executive officers, and 8 non-employee directors of the Company and its subsidiaries as of March 10, 2023. In March 2023, awards covering 238,155 shares to employees under the 2023 Plan, were approved by the Compensation Committee, subject to stockholder approval of the 2023 Plan ("Contingent Awards"). Aside from the Contingent Awards, because the Compensation Committee has full discretion to determine who is a participant in the 2023 Plan, there is no way to predict how many employees may ultimately receive awards under the 2023 Plan. Further, because the Compensation Committee (or Board, as applicable) has discretion to determine the amount and form of awards, subject to 2023 Plan terms, there is no way to determine in advance (except with respect to the Contingent Awards) the benefits or amounts that will be received in the future by or allocated to specific officers or employees, or groups thereof, or to non-employee directors under the 2023 Plan.

# **EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

The following table provides information as of March 10, 2023 regarding all compensation plans under which equity securities of the Company are authorized for issuance. See above in this proposal under "Outstanding Awards under the Prior Plan and Determination of Share Reserve for the 2023 Plan" for additional information regarding outstanding awards and remaining share reserve under our Prior Plan as of March 10, 2023.

PLAN CATEGORY	(A) NUMBER OF SECURITIES TO BE ISSUED UPON EXERCISE OF OUTSTANDING OPTIONS, WARRANTS AND RIGHTS	(B) WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE OF OUTSTANDING OPTIONS, WARRANTS AND RIGHTS	(C) NUMBER OF SECURITIES REMAINING AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS (EXCLUDING SECURITIES REFLECTED IN COLUMN (A))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	2,782,560(1)	\$35 <b>.9</b> 4 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,601,953 <sup>(3)</sup>
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	2,782,560	\$35.94	1,601,953

(1) Consists of 53,254 outstanding stock options, 1,444,045 outstanding shares of restricted stock units, and 1,285,261 outstanding performance shares (assuming target payout) under the Prior Plan. An additional 1,394,668 performance shares are contingently held in reserve in the event of a maximum payout.

(2) The weighted-average exercise price in column (B) does not take performance shares into account.

(3) Consists of shares available for future issuance under the Prior Plan. All remaining available shares will be cancelled, and no new shares will be available to grant out of the Prior Plan upon the effective date of the 2023 Plan. Each share granted after March 10, 2023 will reduce the new share request by one share.

# **BOARD RECOMMENDATION**

The Board believes that the stock-based compensation and other performance-based awards that may be granted under the 2023 Plan align the interests of recipients with those of our stockholders, encourage decisions and reward performance that contributes to the long-term growth of the Company's business, and enhances stockholder value. For this reason and those described above in this proposal, the Board believes that it is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to approve the 2023 Plan.

> The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "**FOR**" this proposal to approve the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan.

# Proposal 6 – Ratification of the Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

# APPOINTMENT OF GRANT THORNTON AS INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

On February 16, 2023, the Audit Committee appointed Grant Thornton as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. Although submission of the appointment for ratification by the stockholders is not legally required, the Board believes that it is consistent with best practices and is an opportunity for stockholders to provide direct feedback to the Board on this important issue of corporate governance. If the stockholders do not ratify the selection of Grant Thornton, the Audit Committee will reconsider the selection of the independent registered public accounting firm for the Company for 2023.

Representatives of Grant Thornton will be present at the 2023 Annual Meeting to respond to appropriate questions, and they will have an opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "**FOR**" the ratification of the appointment of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2023.

# **REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Management has primary responsibility for the Company's financial statements and its reporting process, including the Company's internal control system. Its independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the Company's financial statements and expressing an opinion as to the conformity of such statements with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as well as auditing the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

The Audit Committee's role is to assist the Board of Directors in oversight of the Company's financial reporting process, including oversight of annual audits and quarterly reviews of the Company's financial statement filings and audits of internal control over financial reporting. The Audit Committee has sole responsibility for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee is currently composed of five directors, all of whom have been determined by the Board of Directors in its business judgment to be independent within the meaning of the Company's Director Independence Standards and independent and financially literate as defined under applicable securities laws and rules of the NYSE and operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors. A copy of the Audit Committee charter can be found on the Company's website at www.RYAM.com at the "Investors" tab under "Corporate Governance".

The Audit Committee has reviewed the audited financial statements of the Company included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 and has discussed these audited financial statements with management and with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. In addition, the Audit Committee has held discussions with the Company's independent registered public

accounting firm covering the matters required by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's (PCAOB) Auditing Standard No. 1301, Communications with Audit Committees. The Audit Committee has also received the written disclosures and the letter from the Company's independent registered public accounting firm required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB for independent auditor communications with audit committees concerning independence and has held discussions with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm required accounting firm required by accounting firm regarding their independence.

The Audit Committee met with the Company's chief internal audit executive and with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm representatives to discuss, the overall scope and plans for each of their respective audits, the results of their examinations, their evaluations of the adequacy of the Company's internal control over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting. Separate private meetings without management present were also held with the Company's chief internal audit executive at five meetings of the Audit Committee in 2022 and with representatives of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm at five meetings of the Audit Committee in 2022. The Audit Committee also held five regularly scheduled private meetings with the Company Ombudsman in 2022. The Ombudsman is responsible for handling concerns and inquiries regarding compliance matters, including any submissions regarding the Company's accounting, internal controls and auditing, as required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Based on the Audit Committee's reviews and discussions with management and the independent registered public accounting firm as discussed above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors has approved that the audited financial statements of the Company be included in the Company's 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022, for filing with the SEC. The Audit Committee has also appointed and has requested stockholder ratification of the appointment of Grant Thornton as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023.

This report is furnished by the members of the Audit Committee.

Charles E. Adair, Chair Charles R. Eggert James F. Kirsch David C. Mariano

# AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERTS

The Board has evaluated whether at least one Audit Committee member meets the qualifications to serve as an audit committee financial expert in accordance with SEC rules. Based on its evaluation, the Board has determined in its business judgment that Messrs. Adair, Kirsch and Mariano are each independent of management and qualify as audit committee financial experts.



# INFORMATION REGARDING INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Grant Thornton has served as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm since March 9, 2016. The Audit Committee may change the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm at any time if it determines, in its discretion, that such a change is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders.

Grant Thornton billed the Company the following fees and expenses for services performed in fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively:

FEES (\$ THOUSANDS)	2022	2021
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1,725	\$2,000
Audit Related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	140	100
Tax Fees	-	-
All Other Fees	-	-
Total	\$1,865	\$2,100

(1) Audit fees include amounts for the annual audits of the financial statements and internal controls over financial reporting, as well as, the reviews of quarterly reports on Forms 10-Q, accounting research and consents for SEC filings. The 2022 amount reflects an estimate of fees not yet billed for the 2022 audit.

(2) Audit-related services include services such as internal control reviews and transaction-related fees.

There were no other fees billed by Grant Thornton for services rendered to us, other than the services described above, for fiscal years ended December 31, 2022, and 2021. The independent registered public accountants are prohibited by Company policy from providing professional services to Company executives for personal income tax return preparation or for financial or estate tax planning.

All services provided by the independent registered public accountant as set forth above were pre-approved in accordance with the Audit Committee's pre-approval policies and procedures set forth on the attached Appendix E. Pursuant to such policies and procedures, the Audit Committee has delegated to the Chair of the Audit Committee the authority to pre-approve, when the Audit Committee is not in session, audit-related services and allowable non-audit services and associated fees for any individual engagement for which fees are less than \$10,000. Any such pre-approval of services and fees by the Chair are reported to the full Audit Committee at its next regular meeting.

Questions and Answers about the 2023 Annual Meeting can be found in Appendix A.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R. Colby Slaughter Corporate Secretary

By:

# Appendix A

# Questions and Answers About the Annual Meeting

#### **Q: WHAT AM I VOTING ON?**

A: You are being asked by the Company to vote on six matters: (1) the election of three Class III directors: De Lyle Bloomquist, Charles Eggert and David Mariano (information about each nominee is included in the Biographical and Oualification Information of the Three Nominees for Election to the Board of Directors section); (2) approval of an amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify the board of directors (information can be found in Proposal 2); (3) approval of an amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the supermajority voting provisions (information can be found in Proposal 3); (4) approval, in a non-binding vote, of the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this Proxy Statement (referred to herein as Say on Pay, information can be found in Proposal 4); (5) approval of the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan (information can be found in Proposal 5); and (6) ratification of the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2023 (information can be found in Proposal 6). The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" each of the director nominees listed above and "FOR" each of the other proposals.

#### **Q: WHO IS ENTITLED TO VOTE?**

A: The record holder of any of the 65,109,588 shares of Rayonier Advanced Materials common stock (Common Stock) outstanding at the close of business on March 20, 2023, is entitled to one vote for each share of stock owned.

#### **Q: HOW DO I VOTE?**

A: You can vote in any one of the following ways:

» You can vote on the Internet by following the Vote by Internet instructions on your Notice of Internet Availability (Internet Notice) or proxy card.

- » You can vote by telephone by following the Vote by Phone instructions on the www.proxyvote.com website referred to in the Internet Notice, or, if you receive hard copies of the proxy solicitation materials, by following the Vote by Phone instructions referred to in your proxy card.
- » If you receive hard copies of the proxy solicitation materials, you can vote by mail by signing and dating your proxy card and mailing it in the provided prepaid envelope. If you mark your voting instructions on the proxy card, your stock will be voted as you instruct. If you return a signed and dated card but do not provide voting instructions, your stock will be voted in accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Directors.
- » You can vote in person at the Annual Meeting by delivering a completed proxy card or by completing a ballot available upon request at the meeting. However, if you hold your stock in a bank or brokerage account rather than in your own name, you must obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other holder of record in order to vote at the meeting.

Regardless of how you choose to vote, your vote is important and we encourage you to vote promptly.

#### Q: HOW DO I VOTE STOCK THAT I HOLD THROUGH AN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN SPONSORED BY THE COMPANY?

**A:** If you hold Common Stock of the Company through any of the following employee benefit plans, you can vote them by following the instructions above:

- » Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Investment and Savings Plan for Salaried Employees
- » Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Jesup Plant Savings Plan for Hourly Employees

» Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Fernandina Plant Savings Plan for Hourly Employees

Note that if you do not vote your stock held in any of these Company employee benefit plans or do not specify your voting instructions on your proxy card, the trustee of the employee benefit plans will vote your plan stock in the same proportion as the stock for which voting instructions have been received, except as otherwise required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended. **To allow sufficient time for voting by the trustee, your voting instructions for stock held in the above employee benefit plans must be received by May 12, 2023.** 

# Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING?

A: To attend the Annual Meeting, you will need to bring (1) proof of ownership of Common Stock as of the record date, which is the close of business on March 20, 2023, and (2) a valid governmentissued photo identification. If you are a stockholder of record, proof of ownership can include your proxy card or the Internet Notice. If your stock is held in the name of a broker, bank or other holder of record, you must present proof of your beneficial ownership, such as a proxy obtained from your street name nominee (particularly if you want to vote your stock at the Annual Meeting) or a bank or brokerage account statement (in which case you will not be able to vote your stock at the Annual Meeting), reflecting your ownership of Common Stock as of the record date. If you do not have proof of ownership together with a valid government-issued photo identification, you will not be admitted to the meeting.

Admission to the Annual Meeting is limited to stockholders as of the record date and one immediate family member; one individual properly designated as a stockholder's authorized proxy holder; or one qualified representative authorized to present a stockholder proposal properly before the meeting.

No cameras, recording equipment, large bags, briefcases, or packages will be permitted in the Annual Meeting. The Company may implement additional security procedures to ensure the safety of the meeting attendees.

#### **Q: IS MY VOTE CONFIDENTIAL?**

A: Proxy cards, ballots and reports of Internet and telephone voting results that identify individual stockholders are mailed or returned directly to Broadridge, our vote tabulator and handled in a manner that protects your privacy. Your vote will not be disclosed except:

- » As needed to permit Broadridge and our inspector of elections to tabulate and certify the vote
- » As required by law
- » If we determine that a genuine dispute exists as to the accuracy or authenticity of a proxy, ballot or vote; or
- » In the event of a proxy contest where all parties to the contest do not agree to follow our confidentiality policy

# Q: WHAT STOCK IS COVERED BY MY INTERNET NOTICE OR PROXY CARD?

**A:** You should have been provided an Internet Notice or proxy card for each account in which you own Common Stock either:

- » Directly with Computershare, our transfer agent, as a stockholder of record, which includes stock purchased through any of our employee benefit plans; or
- » Indirectly through a broker, bank or other holder of record.

# Q: WHAT DOES IT MEAN IF I RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE INTERNET NOTICE OR PROXY CARD?

A: It means that you have multiple accounts in which you own Common Stock. Please vote all stock in each account for which you receive an Internet Notice or proxy card to ensure that all your stock is voted. However, for your convenience we recommend that you contact your broker, bank or our transfer agent to consolidate as many accounts as possible under a single name and address. Our transfer agent is Computershare. All communications concerning stock you hold in your name, including address changes, name changes, requests to transfer stock and similar issues, can be handled by making a toll-free call to Computershare at 1-866-246-0322. From outside the U.S., you may call Computershare at 201-680-6578.



#### **Q: HOW CAN I CHANGE MY VOTE?**

**A:** You can revoke your proxy and change your vote by:

- » Voting on the Internet or by telephone before 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 16, 2022 or, for employee benefit plan stock, the cutoff date noted above (only your most recent Internet or telephone proxy is counted)
- » Signing and submitting another proxy card with a later date at any time before the polls close at the Annual Meeting
- » Giving timely written notice of revocation of your proxy to our Corporate Secretary at 1301 Riverplace Boulevard, Suite 2300, Jacksonville, Florida 32207; or
- » Voting again in person before the polls close at the Annual Meeting

# Q: HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO HOLD THE MEETING?

A: In order to conduct the Annual Meeting, a majority of the Common Stock outstanding as of the close of business on the Record Date, March 20, 2023, must be present, either in person or represented by proxy. All stock voted pursuant to properly submitted proxies and ballots, as well as abstentions and stock voted on a discretionary basis by banks, brokers or other holders of record in the absence of voting instructions from their customers, will be counted as present and entitled to vote for purposes of satisfying this requirement.

# Q: HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO ELECT THE NOMINEES FOR DIRECTOR?

A: The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast with respect to each nominee at the Annual Meeting is required to elect that nominee as a director. For this proposal, a majority of the votes cast means that the number of votes "FOR" a nominee must exceed the number of votes "AGAINST" a nominee. Abstentions will therefore not affect the outcome of director elections.

Please note that under NYSE rules, banks and brokers are not permitted to vote the uninstructed stock of their customers on a discretionary basis (referred to as broker non-votes) in the election of directors. As a result, if you hold your stock through an account with a bank or broker and you do not instruct your bank or broker how to vote your stock in the election of directors, no votes will be cast on your behalf in the election of directors. Because broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote, it is critical that you instruct your bank or broker if you want your vote to be counted in the election of directors.

#### Q: HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE COMPANY'S AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO DECLASSIFY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

**A:** The proposal to amend the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify the board of directors will be approved if holders of 80% of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting cast votes "FOR" the proposal. Failing to vote or abstaining from voting will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal.

Banks and brokers are not permitted to vote uninstructed stock for any Company proposals relating to a Board declassification proposal. As a result, if you hold your stock through an account with a bank or broker and you do not instruct your bank or broker how to vote your stock on this proposal, no votes will be cast on your behalf with regard to approval of the proposal. **Because broker non-votes** will have the same effect as a vote against the proposed amendment, it is critical that you instruct your bank or broker if you want your vote to be counted in the approval of the proposal.

#### Q: HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE COMPANY'S AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO ELIMINATE THE SUPERMAJORITY VOTING PROVISIONS?

A: The proposal to amend the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to remove the supermajority voting provisions will be approved if holders of 80% of the outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting cast votes "FOR" the proposal. Failing to vote or abstaining from voting will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal.

Banks and brokers are not permitted to vote uninstructed stock for any Company proposals relating to removal of supermajority voting provisions. As a result, if you hold your stock through an account with a bank or broker and you do not instruct your bank or broker how to vote your stock on this proposal, no votes will be cast on your behalf with regard to approval of the proposal. **Because broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote against the proposed amendment, it is critical that you instruct your bank or broker if you want your vote to be counted in the approval of the proposal.** 

#### Q: HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO APPROVE THE SAY-ON-PAY PROPOSAL?

**A:** The affirmative vote of a majority of shares of Common Stock represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote is required for approval, on an advisory basis, of the Say-on-Pay proposal. Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" this proposal. Broker non-votes will not affect the outcome of the proposal.

Banks and brokers are not permitted to vote uninstructed stock for any Company proposals relating to executive compensation. As a result, if you hold your stock through an account with a bank or broker and you do not instruct your bank or broker how to vote your stock on this proposal, no votes will be cast on your behalf with regard to approval of the proposal. **Because broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote, it is critical that you instruct your bank or broker if you want your vote to be counted in the approval of the proposal.** 

#### Q: HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO APPROVE THE RAYONIER ADVANCED MATERIALS INC. 2023 INCENTIVE STOCK PLAN?

A: The affirmative vote of a majority of shares of Common Stock represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote is required to approve the proposal to approve, the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan. Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" this proposal. Broker non-votes will not affect the outcome of the proposal.

Banks and brokers are not permitted to vote uninstructed stock for any Company proposals relating to executive compensation. As a result, if you hold your stock through an account with a bank or broker and you do not instruct your bank or broker how to vote your stock on this proposal, no votes will be cast on your behalf with regard to approval of the proposal. Because broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote, it is critical that you instruct your bank or broker if you want your vote to be counted in the approval of the proposal.

#### Q: HOW MANY VOTES ARE NEEDED TO APPROVE THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM?

A: The affirmative vote of a majority of shares of Common Stock represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote is required to ratify the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" this proposal. Any broker non-votes will have no effect on the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm; however, because brokers, banks and other nominees are permitted under NYSE rules to vote on this routine proposal even if such broker, bank or other nominee does not receive voting instructions, we do not expect broker non-votes on this routine proposal.

#### **Q: WILL ANY OTHER MATTERS BE VOTED ON?**

A: We do not expect any other matters to be considered at the Annual Meeting. However, if a matter not listed on the Internet Notice or proxy card is legally and properly brought before the Annual Meeting, the persons named as proxies in our proxy materials intend to vote the shares for which we have received proxies in accordance with their best judgment. Under the Company's Bylaws, all stockholder proposals must have been received by December 2, 2022, to be considered for inclusion in this Proxy Statement and all other stockholder proposals and director nominations must have been received between January 16, 2023, and February 15, 2023, to be otherwise properly brought before the Annual Meeting. We have not received any stockholder proposals or director nominations from stockholders to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting.

#### **Q: WHO WILL COUNT THE VOTES?**

**A:** Representatives of Broadridge will count the votes, however submitted. A Company representative will act as inspector of elections.



# Q: HOW WILL I LEARN THE RESULTS OF THE VOTING?

A: We intend to announce the preliminary voting results of the proposals at the Annual Meeting and to disclose final voting results in a Form 8-K to be filed with the SEC no later than four business days following the Annual Meeting (or, if final results are not available at the time, within four business days of the date on which final results become available).

# Q: WHO PAYS THE COST OF THIS PROXY SOLICITATION?

A: The Company pays the costs of soliciting proxies and has retained Morrow Sodali LLC to assist in the solicitation of proxies and provide related advice and informational support. For these services, the Company will pay Morrow Sodali LLC a services fee of \$15,000, plus reimbursement of customary expenses. The Company will also reimburse brokers, dealers, banks and trustees, or their nominees, for reasonable expenses incurred by them in forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners of the Common Stock. Additionally, directors, officers and employees may solicit proxies on behalf of the Company by mail, telephone, facsimile, email and personal solicitation. Directors, officers and employees will not be paid additional compensation for such services.

# Q: WHEN ARE STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS FOR THE 2024 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS DUE?

**A:** For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the 2024 Annual Meeting), the Company's Corporate Secretary must receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices no later than the close of business on December 2, 2023. Such proposals also must comply with SEC regulations under Rule 14a-8 regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in companysponsored proxy materials. The submission of a proposal in accordance with these requirements does not guarantee we will include the proposal in our Proxy Statement or on our proxy card. Proposals should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 1301 Riverplace Boulevard, Suite 2300 Jacksonville, Florida 32207

For a stockholder proposal (including a director nomination) to be properly brought before the stockholders at the 2024 Annual Meeting outside of the Company's Proxy Statement, the stockholder must comply with the requirements of the Company's Bylaws and give timely notice in accordance with such Bylaws, which, in general, require the notice be received by the Corporate Secretary: (i) no earlier than the close of business on January 19, 2024; and (ii) no later than the close of business on February 18, 2024. In addition to satisfying the foregoing requirements, pursuant to the universal proxy rules, stockholders who intend to solicit proxies in support of director nominees other than the Company's nominees must provide notice that complies with all requirements of SEC Rule 14a-19.

If the date of the 2024 Annual Meeting is moved more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after May 17, 2024, then notice of a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in the Company's Proxy Statement must be received no earlier than the close of business 120 days prior to the meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of: (a) 90 days prior to the meeting; or (b) if the first public announcement of the date of the 2024 Annual Meeting is less than 100 days prior to the date of such meeting, 10 days after public announcement of the meeting date.

We strongly encourage any stockholder interested in submitting a proposal for the 2024 Annual Meeting to contact our Corporate Secretary at (904) 357-4600 prior to submission in order to discuss the proposal. [THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

# Appendix B

# Proposed Amendment to Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to Declassify the Board of Directors

Text of proposed amendment to the Company's Certificate of Incorporation (deletions are indicated by strikeouts and additions are indicated by double-underlining):

## AMEND SECTIONS 2, 3 AND 4 OF ARTICLE VI AS FOLLOWS:

Section 2. <u>Classes of Directors</u>. Subject to the rights of the holders of any series of Preferred Stock to elect directors under specified circumstances, the directors shall, <u>until the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2024</u>, be divided, with respect to the time for which they severally hold office, into three classes, as nearly equal in number as is reasonably possible, with the. The term of office of the first class to class of directors elected at the annual meeting of stockholders held in 2021 shall expire at the 20152024 annual meeting of stockholders, the term of office of the second class to class of directors elected at the annual meeting of stockholders held in 2022 shall expire at the 20162025 annual meeting of stockholders and the term of office of the third class to class of directors elected at the annual meeting of stockholders, with each director to hold office until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and qualified. At each annual meeting of stockholders afterheld in the year following the year of their election, with each director to hold office until his or her successor shall be elected for a term of office to expire at the third succeeding annual meeting of stockholders afterheld in the year following the year of their election, with each director to hold office until have been duly elected and qualified, and (b) if authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors, directors may be elected to fill any vacancy on the Board of Directors, regardless of how such vacancy shall have been created.

Section 3. <u>Vacancies</u>. Subject to applicable law and the rights of the holders of any series of Preferred Stock with respect to such series of Preferred Stock, and unless the Board of Directors otherwise determines, vacancies resulting from death, resignation, retirement, disqualification, removal from office or other cause, and newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors, may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, though less than a quorum of the Board of Directors, and in the event that there is only one director remaining in office, by such sole remaining director, and directors so chosen shall hold office for a term expiring at the annual meeting of stockholders at which the term of office of the class to which they have been appointed expires and until such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified and, if the Board of Directors at such time is classified, for a term expiring at the annual meeting of stockholders at which the term of office of the class to which such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified and, if the Board of Directors at such time is classified, for a term expiring at the annual meeting of stockholders at which the term of office of the class to which such director's successor shall have been appointed expires and until such director has been appointed expires and until such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified.

Section 4. <u>Removal</u>. <u>Subject</u> <u>Except as provided in the subsequent sentence and subject</u> to the rights of the holders of any series of Preferred Stock with respect to such series of Preferred Stock, any director, or the entire Board of Directors, may be removed from office at any time <u>but only for</u>, <u>with or without</u> cause, but only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least eighty percent (80%) of the voting power of all of the then-outstanding

shares of capital stock of the Corporation entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (the "<u>Voting Stock</u>"), voting together as a single class. Notwithstanding the immediately preceding sentence, subject to the rights of the holders of any series of Preferred Stock with respect to such series of Preferred Stock, until the 2024 annual meeting of the stockholders, a director may be removed from office at any time, but only for cause and only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least eighty percent (80%) of the voting power of the Voting Stock, voting together as a single class.



# Appendix C

# Proposed Amendment to Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to Eliminate the Supermajority Voting Provisions

Text of proposed amendment to the Company's Certificate of Incorporation (deletions are indicated by strikeouts and additions are indicated by double-underlining):

# AMEND SECTION 4 OF ARTICLE VI AS FOLLOWS:

Section 4. <u>Removal</u>. Subject to the rights of the holders of any series of Preferred Stock with respect to such series of Preferred Stock, any director, or the entire Board of Directors, may be removed from office at any time but only for cause by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least eighty percent (80%)<u>a majority</u> of the voting power of all of the then-outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (the "Voting Stock"), voting together as a single class.

# AMEND ARTICLE XIII AS FOLLOWS:

In furtherance and not in limitation of the powers conferred by the laws of the State of Delaware as they presently exist or may hereafter be amended, subject to any limitations contained elsewhere in this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, the Corporation may from time to time alter, amend, repeal or adopt, in whole or in part, any provisions of this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, amendment or repeal of, or the adoption of any provision inconsistent with, Section 3 of Article IV, Article VI, Article VI, Article X or this Article XIII of this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (in each case, as in effect on the date hereof), or the alteration, amendment or repeal of, or the adoption of any provision inconsistent of repeal of, or the adoption of any provision inconsistent of repeal of, or the adoption of any provision (in each case, as in effect on the date hereof), or the alteration, amendment or repeal of, or the adoption of any provision inconsistent with this sentence, may only be made by the affirmative vote of shares representing not less than eighty percent (80%) of the voting power of all of the Voting Stock, voting together as a single class.

The Corporation reserves the right to amend, alter or repeal any provision contained in this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by statute, and all rights conferred upon stockholders herein are subject to this reservation.

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# Appendix D

# Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan is to attract and retain highly qualified employees and directors and to motivate and reward performance that will lead to sustained increases in stockholder value. The Plan furthers opportunities for share ownership by our employees in order to increase their proprietary interest in Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. and, as a result, their interest in our long-term success and their commitment to creating stockholder value.

## 2. Definitions

When used herein, the following terms shall have the indicated meaning:

"Applicable Law" means any applicable law, including without limitation, provisions of the Code, the Securities Act, the Exchange Act and any rules or regulations thereunder; corporate, securities, tax or other laws, statutes, rules, requirements or regulations, whether U.S. or non-U.S. federal, provincial, state or local; and rules of any securities exchange or automated quotation system on which the Stock is listed, quoted or traded.

"Award" means an award granted to any Participant in accordance with the provisions of the Plan, including Options, Rights, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units, Cash-Based Awards, Performance-Based Awards or any combination of the foregoing.

"Award Agreement" means the written agreement or document, including electronic communication, evidencing each Award granted to a Participant under the Plan.

"Beneficiary" means the estate of a Participant.

"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Change in Control" has the meaning set forth in Section 10.

"Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now in effect or as hereafter amended. (All citations to sections of the Code are to such sections as they may from time to time be amended or renumbered.)

"Committee" means the Compensation and Management Development Committee of the Board or such other committee as may be designated by the Board to administer the Plan.

"Company" means Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. and its subsidiaries, successors and assigns.

"Director" means a Board member.

"Effective Date" has the meaning set forth in Section 19.

"Eligible Individual" means any individual who is a Non-Employee Director or an employee (including officer) of a Participating Company.

"Equity Restructuring" means a nonreciprocal transaction between the Company and its stockholders, such as a stock dividend, stock split (including a reverse stock split), spin-off or recapitalization through a large, nonrecurring cash dividend, that affects the number or kind of shares of Stock (or other Company securities) or

the share price of Stock (or other Company securities) and causes a change in the per share value of the Common Stock underlying outstanding Awards.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

"Executive Severance Plan" means the Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Executive Severance Pay Plan as currently in effect or as may be amended or replaced from time to time.

"Fair Market Value" means, unless otherwise determined by the Committee, on any date, the price of the last trade, regular way, in the Common Stock on such date on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), or if at the relevant time, the Common Stock is not listed to trade on the NYSE, on such other exchange or recognized quotation system on which the trading prices of the Stock are then quoted, or with respect to Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units, such other price determined by reasonable application of a reasonable valuation method selected by the Committee. In the event that there are no Stock transactions on the NYSE or applicable exchange or quotation system on any relevant date, Fair Market Value for such date shall mean the closing price on the immediately preceding date on which Stock transactions were so reported.

"Incentive Stock Option" means a stock option qualified under Section 422 of the Code.

"Non-Employee Director" means a member of the Board who is not otherwise an employee of the Company.

"Option" means an Incentive Stock Option or a non-qualified stock option awarded under Section 5 of the Plan.

"Participants" are those Eligible Individuals designated from time to time by the affirmative action of the Committee (or its delegate) to participate in the Plan.

"Participating Company" means the Company or any subsidiary or other affiliate of the Company; provided, however, for Incentive Stock Options only, "Participating Company" means the Company or any corporation that at the time such Option is granted qualifies as a "subsidiary" of the Company under Section 424(f) of the Code.

"Performance-Based Award" means any Award that is intended to constitute performance-based compensation, as determined by the Committee.

"Performance Goals" means or may be expressed in terms of any of the following business criteria measured on an absolute or relative basis, in each case measurable as objective goals: (i) net income or net earnings (before or after taxes), (ii) earnings per share, (iii) operating income, (iv) operating cash flow, (v) free cash flow, (vi) cash available for distribution, (vii) revenue growth, (viii) earnings before income taxes and depreciation, (ix) earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, (x) margins (including but not limited to gross or operating margins), (xi) reductions in operating expenses, (xii) sales or return on sales, (xiii) stock price (including, but not limited to, growth measures and total stockholder return), (xiv) return measures (including but not limited to return on equity, return on total capital, return on invested capital and return on assets), (xv) economic value added, (xvi) expense targets, (xvii) cost reductions and savings, (xviii) attainment of budget goals, (xix) increase in surplus, (xx) productivity improvements, (xxi) attainment of strategic or operational initiatives, (xxii) an executive's attainment of personal objectives with respect to any of the foregoing criteria or other criteria such as growth and profitability, customer satisfaction, market share, leadership effectiveness, business development, operational efficiency or operational improvement, strategic or operational initiatives, negotiating transactions and sales or developing long term business goals, (xxiii) any other objective or subjective criteria determined by the Committee. A Performance Goal may be measured over a Performance Period on a periodic, annual, cumulative or average basis and may be established on a corporate-wide basis or established with respect to one or more operating units, divisions, subsidiaries, acquired businesses, minority investments, partnerships or joint ventures.

"Performance Objective" means the level or levels of performance required to be attained with respect to a specified performance goal or goals, including Performance Goals, in order that a Participant shall become entitled to specified rights in connection with a Performance-Based Award or other performance-based Award. The level or levels of performance specified with respect to a performance goal may be established in absolute terms, as objectives relative to performance in prior periods, as an objective compared to the performance of one or more peer or comparable or other companies or an index covering multiple companies, in each case that the



Committee, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate. Performance Objectives need not be based upon an increase or positive result under a business criterion and could include, for example, the maintenance of the status quo or the limitation of economic losses or decreases (measured, in each case, by reference to particular business criteria).

"Performance Period" means the period designated by the Committee, during which performance will be measured for purposes of determining a Participant's entitlement to receive payment of a Performance-Based Award or other performance-based Award.

"Plan" means this Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. 2023 Incentive Stock Plan, as it may be amended, administered or interpreted from time to time.

"Prior Plan" means the Rayonier Advanced Materials Incentive Stock Plan and/or the Rayonier Advanced Materials 2021 Incentive Stock Plan.

"Plan Year" means the calendar year.

"Qualifying Termination" has the meaning set forth in Section 10(c)(ii).

"Restricted Stock" means Stock awarded under Section 6 of the Plan subject to such restrictions as the Committee deems appropriate or desirable. Shares of Restricted Stock shall carry voting rights.

"Restricted Stock Unit" means a contractual right pursuant to an Award Agreement that entitles a Participant to receive shares of Stock at a future date subject to such terms and conditions as are set by the Committee, including the attainment of time vesting criteria, and/or Performance Objectives and other performance-based vesting criteria, as provided in Section 6 of the Plan. Restricted Stock Units may be settled in cash or a combination of shares of Stock and cash in the discretion of the Committee, as provided in the Award Agreement.

"Restriction Period" has the meaning set forth in Section 6 of the Plan.

"Retirement" means, unless otherwise determined by the Committee, an employee's separation from service having met the age and service requirements that would have resulted in the employee being eligible to receive immediate retirement benefits under a Participating Company qualified defined benefit pension plan, but without regard to whether or not such employee participates in such pension plan.

"Right" means a stock appreciation right awarded alone or in tandem with an Option under Section 5 of the Plan.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"Stock" means the common stock of the Company.

"Total Disability" means a determination that a Participant is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of at least twelve (12) months, as determined by the Committee upon the basis of such evidence as the Committee deems appropriate or necessary. A determination that the Participant is eligible for full long-term disability payments under the Company's long-term disability plan, as may be in effect from time to time, shall be conclusive evidence of Total Disability.

## 3. Shares Subject to the Plan

(a) From and after the Effective Date, the total number of shares of Stock that may be issued pursuant to Awards under the Plan shall not exceed 3,922,953 subject to adjustment as provided in Section 14 of the Plan. No more than 1,000,000 shares of Stock may be cumulatively available for Awards of Incentive Stock Options under the Plan.

(b) The maximum number of Shares subject to Awards granted during a single fiscal year to any non-employee Director, taken together with any cash fees paid during the fiscal year to the non-employee Director, in respect of the Director's service as a member of the Board during such year (including service as a member or chair of any committees of the Board), shall not exceed \$400,000 in total value (calculating the value of

any such Awards based on the grant date fair value of such Awards for financial reporting purposes). The independent members of the Board may make exceptions to this limit for a non-executive chair of the Board, provided that the non-employee Director receiving such additional compensation may not participate in the decision to award such compensation. Any Awards granted to an individual while he or she is an employee but not a Non-Employee Director shall not count against the foregoing limitation.

(c) Subject to the above limitations, shares of Stock to be issued under the Plan may be made available from the authorized but unissued shares or from reacquired shares purchased in the open market or otherwise. For the purpose of computing the total number of shares of Stock available for future Awards under the Plan, shares of Stock shall be reserved for issuance under outstanding performance-based Award programs at the maximum award level and counted against the foregoing limitations. If any Awards under the Plan, or under the Prior Plan, in whole or in part, are forfeited, terminated, expire unexercised, are settled in cash in lieu of Stock, are exchanged for other Awards or are released from a reserve for failure to meet the maximum payout under a program, the shares of Stock that were theretofore subject to or reserved for such Awards or so released from a reserve. If any shares subject to an Award are not delivered to a Participant because such shares are withheld for the payment of taxes, the number of shares that are not delivered to the Participant shall not be available for subsequent issuance under the Plan. If the exercise price of any Award or any tax arising upon vesting is satisfied by tendering shares of Common Stock held by the Participant (either by actual delivery or attestation), then the number of shares so tendered shall not be available for subsequent issuance under the Plan.

(d) In connection with an entity's merger or consolidation with any Participating Company or any Participating Company's direct or indirect acquisition of an entity's property or stock, the Committee may grant Awards in substitution or exchange, for any options or other stock or stock-based awards granted before such merger or consolidation by such entity or its affiliate. Substitute awards may be granted on such terms and conditions as the Committee deems appropriate, notwithstanding limitations on Awards in the Plan. Substitute awards will not count against the aggregate share limit in Section 3(a) (nor shall shares of Stock subject to a substitute award be added to the shares of Stock available for Awards under the Plan under Section 3(c)), except that shares of Stock acquired by exercise of substitute incentive stock option will count against the maximum number of shares that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options under the Plan. Additionally, in the event that a company acquired by any Participating Company or with which any Participating Company combines has shares available under a pre-existing plan approved by stockholders and not adopted in contemplation of such acquisition or combination, the shares available for grant pursuant to the terms of such pre-existing plan (as appropriately adjusted to reflect the transaction) may be used for Awards under the Plan and shall not reduce the Shares authorized for grant under the Plan (and shares subject to such Awards (which, for the avoidance of doubt, excludes substitute awards) may again become available for Awards under the Plan as provided under Section 3(c) above); provided that Awards using such available shares (or any shares of Stock that again become available for issuance under the Plan under Section 3(c) above) shall not be made after the date awards or grants could have been made under the terms of the pre-existing plan, absent the acquisition or combination, and shall only be made to individuals who were not employees or directors of any Participating Companies prior to such acquisition or combination.

## 4. Grant of Awards and Award Agreements

(a) Subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Committee shall have all of the powers vested in it by the terms of the Plan set forth herein, such powers to include the authority to determine and designate from time to time those Eligible Individuals or groups of Eligible Individuals to whom Awards are to be granted; determine the form or forms of Awards to be granted to any Participant; determine the amount or number of shares of Stock subject to each Award; and determine the terms and conditions of each Award.

(b) The Board shall serve to administer and interpret the Plan with respect to any grants of Awards made to Non-Employee Directors. Non-Employee Directors shall only be eligible for Awards in the form of Options,



Restricted Stock and/or Restricted Stock Units, subject to any vesting conditions determined by the Board in its discretion. Any such Awards, and all duties, powers and authority given to the Committee in this Plan, including those provided for in this Section 4, in Section 12 and elsewhere in the Plan, in connection with Awards to Participants shall be deemed to be given to the Board in its sole discretion in connection with Awards to Non-Employee Directors. The Board may request of the Committee, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee or of any other Board committee, its recommendation on the level of Awards for this purpose. Except as may be specifically provided by the Board at the time of grant or in the applicable Award Agreement, the provisions of Sections 10, 15 and 16 shall not apply in respect of Awards made to Non-Employee Directors. Except as otherwise determined by the Board, a Non-Employee Director's ceasing to be a director of the Company shall be treated in the same manner as a voluntary termination of employment by a Participant on such date.

(c) Each Award granted under the Plan shall be evidenced by a written Award Agreement, which may be electronic. Such agreement shall be subject to and incorporate the express terms and conditions, if any, required under the Plan or required by the Committee, including such covenants and agreements with respect to the subject matter of Sections 15 and 16 as the Committee may determine in its sole discretion.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, Awards granted under the Plan (other than cash-based awards) shall vest no earlier than the first anniversary of the date on which the Award is granted; <u>provided</u>, that the following Awards shall not be subject to the foregoing minimum vesting requirement: any (i) substitute Awards granted in connection with awards that are assumed, converted or substituted pursuant to a merger, acquisition or similar transaction entered into by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, (ii) Shares delivered in lieu of fully vested cash obligations, (iii) Awards to Non-Employee Directors that vest on earlier of the one-year anniversary of the date of grant and the next annual meeting of stockholders which is at least 50 weeks after the immediately preceding year's annual meeting, and (iv) any additional Awards the Committee may grant, up to a maximum of five percent (5%) of the available share reserve authorized for issuance under the Plan pursuant to Section 3(a) (subject to adjustment under Section 14); and, <u>provided</u>, <u>further</u>, that the foregoing restriction does not apply to the Committee's discretion to provide for accelerated exercisability or vesting of any Award, including in cases of retirement, death, Disability or a Change in Control, in the terms of the Award Agreement or otherwise.

## 5. Stock Options and Stock Appreciation Rights

(a) With respect to Options and Rights, the Committee shall (i) authorize the granting of Incentive Stock Options, nonqualified stock options, or any combination thereof; (ii) authorize the granting of Rights either alone or in connection with all or part of any Option granted under this Plan, either concurrently with the grant of the Option or at any time thereafter during the term of the Option; (iii) determine the number of shares of Stock subject to each Option or Right; and (iv) determine the time or times when and the manner in which each Option or Right shall be exercisable and the duration of the exercise period. No dividends or dividend equivalents may be granted in respect of any Option or Right, and holders of Options and Rights carry no voting rights.

(b) Any Option issued hereunder that is intended to qualify as an Incentive Stock Option shall be subject to such limitations or requirements as may be necessary for the purposes of Section 422 of the Code, or any successor provision, or any regulations and rulings thereunder, to the extent and in such form as determined by the Committee in its discretion.

(c) The Committee shall establish in its discretion the expiration date of an Option or Right, provided that in no event shall the expiration date be later than ten years from the date of grant of the Option or Right. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that on the last business day of the term of an Option or Right (x) the exercise of the Option or Right is prohibited by applicable law or (y) Shares may not be purchased or sold by certain employees or directors of the Company due to the "black-out period" of a Company policy or a "lock-up" agreement undertaken in connection with an issuance of securities by the Company, the Committee may provide that the term of the Option or Right shall be extended but not beyond a period of thirty (30) days following the end of the legal prohibition, black-out period or lock-up agreement and provided further that no extension will be

made if the grant price of such Option or Right at the date the initial term would otherwise expire is above the Fair Market Value.

(d) The purchase price per share of an Option or Right shall be determined by the Committee at the time any Option or Right is granted and shall be not less than the Fair Market Value of one share of Stock on the date of grant (except with respect to substitute Options or Rights assumed in connection with a merger or other acquisition).

(e) No part of any Option or Right may be exercised until the Participant who has been granted the Award shall have remained in the employ of a Participating Company for such period after the date of grant as the Committee may specify, subject to Section 4(d), and the Committee may further require exercisability in installments.

(f) The Option purchase price shall be paid to the Company at the time of exercise either in cash or Stock already owned by the Participant, or any combination thereof, having a total Fair Market Value on the date of exercise equal to the purchase price. The Committee shall determine acceptable methods for tendering Stock as payment upon exercise of an Option and may impose such limitations and prohibitions on the use of Stock to exercise an Option as it deems appropriate. The holder of an Option or Right may be permitted, in the Committee's discretion, to satisfy the purchase price, if applicable, and/or any amounts required to be withheld by the Company under applicable federal, provincial, state and local tax laws in effect from time to time, by electing to have the Company withhold a portion of the underlying shares of Stock to be delivered for the payment of such purchase price and/or taxes.

(g) In case of termination of employment, and except as may be provided in the applicable Award Agreement or under a severance plan covering the Participant, or as may be required by Applicable Law, the following provisions shall apply:

(i) If a Participant who has been granted an Option shall die before such Option has expired, his or her vested Option may be exercised in full by the person or persons to whom the Participant's rights under the Option pass by will, or if no such person has such right, by his or her executors or administrators, at any time, or from time to time, in each such case, such heir, executor or administrator may exercise the Option within five years after the date of the Participant's death or within such other period, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee may specify, but in all events not later than the expiration date applicable to such Options. Unless the Committee or the Award Agreement shall specify otherwise, unvested Options shall be forfeited as of the date of the Participant's death.

(ii) If the Participant's employment by any Participating Company terminates because of his or her Retirement or Total Disability, he or she may exercise his or her Options in full at any time, or from time to time, within five years after the date of the termination of his or her employment or within such other period, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee may specify, but not later than the expiration date applicable to such Option. Any such Options not fully exercisable immediately prior to such Participant's Retirement or termination due to Total Disability shall become fully exercisable upon such Retirement or termination due to Total Disability unless the Committee, in its sole discretion, shall otherwise determine.

(iii) If the Participant is terminated for cause as determined by the Committee, the Options that he or she holds, whether vested or unvested, shall be cancelled as of the effective date of the termination of employment.

(iv) If the Participant's employment terminates for any reason other than as specified above in this Section 5(g), he or she may exercise his or her Options, to the extent that he or she shall have been entitled to do so at the date of the termination of his or her employment, at any time, or from time to time, within six months after the date of the termination of his or her employment or within such other period, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee may specify, but not later than the expiration date of the Option.

(h) Except as otherwise provided in Section 17(f), (i) no Option or Right granted under the Plan shall be sold, exchanged, transferred, pledged, hypothecated or otherwise disposed of, other than by will or by the laws of



descent and distribution, and (ii) during the lifetime of the Participant, an Option or Right shall be exercisable only by the Participant to whom the Option or Right is granted.

(i) Stock Appreciation Rights.

(i) Rights may be granted in tandem with an Option or on a freestanding basis not related to any other Award. A grant of Rights shall be evidenced in an Award Agreement, which may be included as part of the Award Agreement governing the terms of any Option granted in tandem with such Rights, or pursuant to a separate Award Agreement. The terms and conditions of any Rights granted in tandem with an Option shall be substantially identical to the tandem Option, to the extent possible taking into account the differences related to the character of Rights versus Options.

(ii) Upon exercise of a Right, subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee may specify, the Participant shall be entitled to receive payment of an amount determined by multiplying: (x) the excess, if any, of the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the date of exercise over the per share purchase price of the Rights by (y) the number of shares of Stock with respect to which the Rights are then being exercised. Upon exercise of a Right, payment shall be made in whole shares of Stock based on Fair Market Value at such time, in cash, or in a combination thereof as determined by the Committee. The Company will not issue a fractional share of Stock and, if a fractional share would otherwise be issuable, the Company shall pay cash equal to the Fair Market Value of the fractional share of Stock at such time.

(iii) The provisions above in Section 5(g) with respect to treatment of Options upon termination of employment shall apply equally in respect of Rights.

(iv) In the event of the exercise of a Right granted in tandem with an Option, whether in connection with a termination of employment under Section 5(g) or otherwise, the Company's obligation in respect of any related Option or such portion thereof will be discharged by payment of the Right so exercised.

(j) Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, other than pursuant to Section 14, the Committee shall not without the approval of the Company's stockholders (i) reduce the purchase price per share of an Option or Right after it is granted, (ii) cancel an Option or Right when the purchase price per share exceeds the Fair Market Value of one share of Stock in exchange for cash or another Award (other than in connection with a merger, acquisition or similar transaction), or (iii) take any other action with respect to an Option or Right that would be treated as a repricing under the rules and regulations of the national securities exchange on which the Stock is then listed.

## 6. Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units

(a) Subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Committee shall: (i) determine and designate from time to time those Participants or groups of Participants to whom Awards of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units are to be made, (ii) determine the restrictions applicable to such Awards, including the attainment of time vesting criteria and/or performance-based criteria, (iii) subject to Section 4(d), determine a restriction period or performance period (after which restrictions will lapse), which shall mean a period commencing on the date the Award is granted and ending on such date as the Committee shall determine (the "Restriction Period"), (iv) determine the form of settlement of a Restricted Stock Unit, and (v) generally determine the terms and conditions of each Award of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units. Subject to Section 4(d), the Committee may provide for the lapse of restrictions in installments where deemed appropriate. If, at the time of grant, the Committee intends a Restricted Stock Unit Award to be a Performance-Based Award, the Award must satisfy the requirements of Section 8 to the extent applicable.

(b) Except as may be provided in the applicable Award Agreement or under a severance plan covering the Participant, or as may be required by Applicable Law, or when the Committee determines otherwise pursuant to this Section 6(b), if a Participant terminates employment with all Participating Companies for any reason before the expiration of the Restriction Period, all shares of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units still subject to

restriction shall be forfeited by the Participant upon the effective date of termination. In cases of death, Total Disability or Retirement or in cases of special circumstances, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, subject to Section 4(d), elect to waive any or all remaining restrictions with respect to such Participant's Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this Section 6 or Section 17(f), Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units shall not be sold, exchanged, transferred, pledged, hypothecated or otherwise disposed of during the Restriction Period.

(d) The Committee may require, under such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate or desirable, that any certificates for Stock delivered under the Plan may be held in custody by a bank or other institution, or that the Company may itself hold such shares in custody until the Restriction Period expires or until restrictions thereon otherwise lapse, and may require, as a condition of any Award of Restricted Stock that the Participant shall have delivered a stock power endorsed in blank relating to the Restricted Stock.

(e) Restricted Stock Units are contractual rights only, and no Stock will be issued in respect of Restricted Stock Units unless and until the terms and conditions established by the Committee are obtained or satisfied. Restricted Stock Units do not carry any rights of a stockholder, including voting rights, and subject to Section 6(f), do not carry a right to receive an amount in respect of dividends.

(f) The Committee may, in its sole discretion, provide that Awards of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units earn dividends or dividend equivalents. Any such dividends or dividend equivalents shall be accumulated and credited to an account for the Participant, settled in cash or shares of Stock as determined by the Committee, and shall be subject to the same terms and conditions, including vesting restrictions, as the Award with respect to which the dividends or dividend equivalents are credited. The Committee may determine that any dividends or dividend equivalents so credited to a Participant's account shall accrue interest at a rate per annum specified by the Committee. Any credited dividends or dividend equivalents, and accrued interest if any, shall be paid as soon as administratively practicable following the time the related shares of Restricted Stock or the related Restricted Stock Units vest and are paid to the Participant. For the avoidance of doubt, to the extent an Award of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units is terminated, cancelled or forfeited in whole or in part, due to failure to meet performance conditions or otherwise, any dividends or dividend equivalents, and accrued interest if any, credited with respect to such Award shall be terminated, cancelled or forfeited at the same time and to the same extent as such Award. No dividends or dividend equivalents shall be paid on unearned or unvested performance-based awards.

## 7. Cash-Based Awards

The Committee is hereby authorized to grant Awards to Participants denominated in cash in such amounts and subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee may determine. Each such Cash-Based Award shall specify a payment amount, payment range or a value determined with respect to the Fair Market Value of shares of Stock, as determined by the Committee. If, at the time of grant, the Committee intends a Cash-Based Award to be a Performance-Based Award, the Award shall be subject to the requirements of Section 8 to the extent applicable.

## 8. Performance-Based Awards

(a) <u>Performance-Based Awards</u>. The Committee is authorized to design any Award under this Plan, including Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units and Cash-Based Awards, to constitute a Performance-Based Award in accordance with this Section 8.

(b) <u>Performance Objectives</u>. The Committee shall determine the Performance Objectives of Performance-Based Awards. Such Performance Objectives shall be based on the achievement of performance goals established by the Committee based on one or more of the Performance Goals and measured over the specified Performance Period. Performance Objectives may vary from Participant to Participant and between groups of Participants.



(c) <u>Performance Period</u>. The Committee shall determine a Performance Period of not less than six (6) months (subject to any further vesting requirements in accordance with Section 4(d)) with respect to any Performance-Based Award.

(d) <u>Establishment of Performance Objectives</u>. For Performance-Based Awards, (i) the Performance Objectives stated in terms of an objective formula or standard, including any inclusions or exclusions under Section 8(e) below, (ii) the method for computing the amount of compensation payable to the Participant if such Performance Objectives are obtained and (iii) the Participants or class of Participants to which such Performance Objectives apply shall be established by the Committee in writing prior to, or reasonably promptly following the inception of, a Performance Period.

(e) <u>Permitted Exclusions/Adjustments</u>. When establishing the Performance Objectives for an Award, the Committee may provide with respect to any such Award that the evaluation of Performance Objectives shall exclude or otherwise equitably adjust for any specified circumstance or event that occurs during a Performance Period, including by way of example, but not limited to, the following: (i) asset write-downs or impairment charges; (ii) litigation or claim judgments or settlements; (iii) the effect of changes in tax laws, accounting principles, or other laws or provisions affecting reported results; (iv) reorganization and restructuring; (v) acquisitions or divestitures and expenses related thereto; (vi) foreign exchange gains and losses; or (vii) any other unusual or infrequently occurring items or any other special or designated items, events or circumstances as the Committee may in its discretion determine. With respect to any Performance-Based Award, such exclusions and adjustments will apply only to the extent the Committee specifies in writing (not later than the time Performance Objectives are required to be established) which exclusions and adjustments the Committee will apply to determine whether a Performance Objective has been satisfied, as well as an objective manner for applying them.

(f) Adjustment of Performance-Based Awards. The Committee is authorized at any time during or after a Performance Period to exercise negative discretion to reduce or eliminate any Performance-Based Award of any Participant, whether or not earned, vested or payable, for any reason in its discretion, including evaluation of performance or any changes in the position or duties of any Participant with the Participating Company during or after a Performance Period, whether due to any termination of employment (including death, disability, retirement, voluntary termination or termination with or without cause) or otherwise. Performance-Based Awards may not be adjusted upward. In addition, to the extent necessary to preserve the intended economic effects of the Plan to the Participating Company and the Participant, the Committee shall adjust performance-based Awards and the related Performance Objectives to take into account: (i) a change in corporate capitalization, (ii) a corporate transaction, such as any merger of the Company or any subsidiary into another entity, any consolidation of the Company or any subsidiary into another entity, any separation of the Company or any subsidiary (including a spin-off or the distribution of stock or property of the Company or any subsidiary), any reorganization of the Company or any subsidiary or a large, special and non-recurring dividend paid or distributed by the Company (whether or not such reorganization comes within the definition of Section 368 of the Code), (iii) any partial or complete liquidation of the Company or any subsidiary or (iv) a change in accounting or other relevant rules or regulations.

(g) <u>Certification of Performance</u>. Any payment of a Performance-Based Award shall be conditioned on the written certification of the Committee, following the completion of the Performance Period, that the Performance Objectives and any other material terms for paying amounts in respect of such Performance-Based Award related to that Performance Period have been satisfied.

(h) <u>Termination of Employment</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 8, and except as may be provided in the applicable Award Agreement or under a severance plan covering the Participant, or as may be required by Applicable Law, upon a Participant's termination of employment during a Performance Period due to death, Total Disability, Retirement, or under other circumstances where the Committee in its sole discretion finds that a waiver would be in the best interests of the Company, subject to Section 4(d)), that the Participant may, as determined by the Committee, be entitled to payment of a Performance-Based Award based upon the

extent to which the Performance Objectives were satisfied during the full Performance Period, which Award, in the discretion of the Committee, may be maintained without change or reduced and prorated for the portion of the Performance Period during which the Participant was employed by any Participating Company; provided, however, the Committee may provide for an earlier payment in settlement of such performance-based Award in such amount and under such terms and conditions as the Committee deems appropriate or desirable. If a Participant terminates service with all Participating Companies during a Performance Period for any reason other than as specified above in this Section 8(h), then such Participant shall forfeit entitlement to any outstanding Performance-Based Award unless otherwise determined by the Committee in the Award Agreement or otherwise. References to "Performance Shares" in the Executive Severance Plan shall be deemed to refer to share-based Performance-Based Awards granted under this Plan.

### 9. Certificates for Awards of Stock

(a) The Company shall not be required to issue or deliver any shares of Stock prior to (i) the listing of such shares on any stock exchange on which the Stock may then be listed and (ii) the completion of any registration or qualification of such shares under any federal, provincial or state law, or any ruling or regulation of any government body that the Company shall, in its sole discretion, determine to be necessary or advisable.

(b) All certificates for shares of Stock delivered under the Plan shall be subject to such stop-transfer orders and other restrictions as the Committee may deem advisable under the rules, regulations, and other requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, any stock exchange upon which the Stock is then listed and any applicable federal, provincial or state securities laws, and the Committee may cause a legend or legends to be placed on any such certificates to make appropriate reference to such restrictions. The foregoing provisions of this Section 9(b) shall not be effective if and to the extent that the shares of Stock delivered under the Plan are covered by an effective and current registration statement under the Securities Act, or if and so long as the Committee determines that application of such provisions is no longer required or desirable. In making such determination, the Committee may rely upon an opinion of counsel for the Company. The rules applicable to certificates hereunder shall apply equally to non-certificated shares of Stock held pursuant to any electronic, book entry or other means or record of ownership and transfer.

## **10. Change in Control**

Notwithstanding any provisions in this Plan to the contrary, the provisions of this Section 10 shall apply in the event of a Change in Control of the Company, unless otherwise provided by the Committee in the Award Agreement.

(a) <u>Awards Assumed or Substituted by Surviving Entity</u>. With respect to Awards assumed by the surviving entity or otherwise equitably converted or substituted in connection with a Change in Control, if within two years after the effective date of the Change in Control, a Participant's employment is terminated and such termination is a Qualifying Termination, then:

(i) each outstanding Option and Right shall become fully vested and exercisable and shall remain exercisable for the remainder of its term;

(ii) all time-based vesting restrictions on outstanding Awards, other than Options and Rights, shall lapse, and payout shall be made within ninety (90) days following the date of the Qualifying Termination;

(iii) with respect to all Awards subject to performance-based vesting restrictions:

(1) for any Award as to which the applicable Performance Period is more than 50% completed at the date of the Qualifying Termination, the Performance Period shall be deemed to end as of the date of the Qualifying Termination and the Participant shall receive, within ninety (90) days following the date of the Qualifying Termination, the greater of: (x) payout of the Award based on actual performance achievement during the Performance Period through the date of Qualifying Termination, (y) if applicable, the result obtained by



applying the share price at the closing of the Change in Control for purposes of measuring Company performance with that of the comparison group at that time under the applicable program, and (z) the Award at 100% of target performance under the applicable program; and

(2) for any Award as to which the applicable Performance Period is not more than 50% completed at the date of the Qualifying Termination, the Participant shall receive within ninety (90) days following the date of the Qualifying Termination, the Award at 100% of target performance under the applicable program.

(b) Awards not Assumed or Substituted by Surviving Entity. Upon the occurrence of a Change in Control, except with respect to any Awards assumed by the surviving entity or otherwise equitably converted or substituted in connection with the Change in Control: (i) outstanding Options and Rights shall become fully vested (and may be cancelled to the extent not exercised as of the Change in Control, (ii) time-based vesting restrictions on outstanding Awards other than Options and Rights shall lapse and payout shall be made within ninety (90) days following the date of the Change in Control, and (iii) with respect to all Awards subject to performance-based vesting restrictions: (1) for any Award as to which the applicable Performance Period is more than 50% completed at the date of the Change in Control, the Performance Period shall be deemed to end as of the date of the Change in Control and the Participant shall receive, within ninety (90) days following the date of the Change in Control, the greater of: (x) payout of the Award based on actual performance achievement during the Performance Period through the date of the Change in Control, (y) if applicable, the result obtained by applying the share price at the closing of the Change in Control for purposes of measuring Company performance with that of the comparison group at that time under the applicable program, and (z) the Award at 100% of target performance under the applicable program; and (2) for any Award as to which the applicable Performance Period is not more than 50% completed at the date of the Change in Control, the Participant shall receive, within ninety (90) days following the date of the Change in Control, the Award at 100% of target performance under the applicable program.

#### (c) Other Change in Control Provisions.

(i) A surviving entity will be deemed to have "assumed or otherwise equitably converted or substituted" an Award under this Plan if the surviving entity substitutes an Award under this Plan with an award, stock option or right under a plan of the surviving entity having equivalent value to and terms and conditions no less favorable than the original Award in all material respects, or otherwise assumes the obligations under and/or equitably adjusts such original Award. The Committee or the Board shall have sole and complete authority and discretion to determine whether the proposed assumption of an Award by a surviving entity meets the requirements provided for in this Section 10(c)(i).

(ii) A "Qualifying Termination" shall mean the participant's involuntary termination of employment by the Company without cause, excluding any termination by the Company for cause, as determined by the Committee, or termination as a result of death or Total Disability; provided, however, if a Participant is covered under the Executive Severance Plan as then in effect, then (1) the term "Qualifying Termination" in this Plan shall have the meaning as may be set forth in the Executive Severance Plan and (2) in the event that a Qualifying Termination occurs under this Plan and the Executive Severance Plan, then the participant shall be afforded the benefits under the plan which provides for the most favorable treatment of participant's outstanding equity as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion.

(iii) "Change in Control" means any one or more of the following events occurring on or after the Effective Date:

(1) Any individual, entity or group (within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) or 14(d)(2) of the Exchange Act)) (a "Person") becomes the beneficial owner (within the meaning of Rule 13d 3 promulgated under the Exchange Act) of 30% or more of either (A) the then-outstanding shares of Stock (the "Outstanding Company Common Stock") or (B) the combined voting power of the then-outstanding voting securities of the Company entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (the "Outstanding Company Voting Securities"); provided, however, that, for purposes of this paragraph, the following acquisitions shall not constitute a Change in Control: (i) any acquisition directly from the Company, (ii) any acquisition by the Company, (iii) any acquisition by any

employee benefit plan (or related trust) sponsored or maintained by the Company or any affiliated Company or (iv) any acquisition pursuant to a transaction that complies with subparagraphs (3)(A), (3)(B) and (3)(C) of this definition;

(2) Individuals who, as of the date hereof, constitute the Board (the "Incumbent Board") cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of the Board; provided, however, that any individual becoming a director subsequent to the date hereof whose election, or nomination for election by the Company's stockholders, was approved by a vote of at least a majority of the directors then comprising the Incumbent Board shall be considered as though such individual was a member of the Incumbent Board, but excluding, for this purpose, any such individual whose initial assumption of office occurs as a result of an actual or threatened election contest with respect to the election or removal of directors or other actual or threatened solicitation of proxies or consents by or on behalf of a Person other than the Board;

(3) Consummation of a reorganization, merger, statutory share exchange or consolidation or similar transaction involving the Company or any of its subsidiaries, a sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company, or the acquisition of assets or securities of another entity by the Company or any of its subsidiaries (each, a "Business Combination"), in each case unless, following such Business Combination, (A) all or substantially all of the individuals and entities that were the beneficial owners of the Outstanding Company Common Stock and the Outstanding Company Voting Securities immediately prior to such Business Combination beneficially own, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the then-outstanding shares of common stock (or, for a non-corporate entity, equivalent securities) and the combined voting power of the then-outstanding voting securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (or, for a non-corporate entity, equivalent governing body), as the case may be, of the entity resulting from such Business Combination (including, without limitation, an entity that, as a result of such transaction, owns the Company or all or substantially all of the Company's assets either directly or through one or more subsidiaries) in substantially the same proportions as their ownership immediately prior to such Business Combination of the Outstanding Company Common Stock and the Outstanding Company Voting Securities, as the case may be, (B) no Person (excluding any entity resulting from such Business Combination or any employee benefit plan (or related trust) of the Company or such entity resulting from such Business Combination) beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, 30% or more of, respectively, the then-outstanding shares of common stock (or, for a non-corporate entity, equivalent securities) of the entity resulting from such Business Combination or the combined voting power of the then-outstanding voting securities of such entity, except to the extent that such ownership existed prior to the Business Combination, and (C) at least a majority of the members of the board of directors (or, for a non-corporate entity, equivalent governing body) of the entity resulting from such Business Combination were members of the Incumbent Board at the time of the execution of the initial agreement or of the action of the Board providing for such Business Combination: or

(4) Approval by the stockholders of the Company of a complete liquidation or dissolution of the Company.

## 11. Beneficiary

Subject to Applicable Law, the Beneficiary of a Participant shall be the Participant's estate, which shall be entitled to receive the Award, if any, payable under the Plan upon his or her death.

## 12. Administration of the Plan

(a) Each member of the Committee shall be both a member of the Board, and a "non-employee director" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3(b)(3)(i) under the Exchange Act.

(b) All decisions, determinations or actions of the Committee made or taken pursuant to grants of authority under the Plan shall be made or taken in the sole discretion of the Committee and shall be final, conclusive and binding on all persons for all purposes. No member of the Committee or the Board shall be personally liable for


any action, omission, determination or interpretation made in good faith with respect to the Plan or Awards, and all members of the Committee and of the Board shall be fully indemnified by the Company with respect to any such action, omission, determination or interpretation.

(c) The Committee shall have full power, discretion and authority to interpret, construe and administer the Plan and any part thereof and any Awards granted under the Plan, and its interpretations and constructions thereof, including the adoption of rules, modifications, procedures and subplans as may be necessary or desirable for administration of the Plan, including for purposes of granting awards to Participants in foreign countries and qualifying any such awards for preferential tax treatment under Applicable Law. The Committee may correct any defect or supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan or in any Award in the manner and to the extent the Committee deems necessary or desirable to carry it into effect. Any action or decision of the Committee in the interpretation and administration of the Plan, as described herein, shall lie within its sole and absolute discretion and, except as otherwise determined by the Board, shall be final, conclusive and binding on all parties concerned.

(d) The Committee's decisions and determinations under the Plan need not be uniform and may be made selectively among Participants, whether or not such Participants are similarly situated.

(e) The Committee may, in its sole discretion, delegate such of its powers as it deems appropriate; provided, however, that the Committee may not delegate its responsibility (i) to make Awards to executive officers of the Company; or (ii) to certify the satisfaction of Performance Objectives. The Committee may also appoint agents to assist in the day-to-day administration of the Plan and may delegate the authority to execute and deliver documents under the Plan or to take any other action on behalf of the Committee with respect to Awards made or to be made to Participants to one or more members of the Committee or to one or more officers of the Company, subject to the requirements of Applicable Law and the limitations in this Section 12(e). For purposes of the Plan, references to the Committee shall include any such person to whom the Committee has delegated its authority pursuant to this Section 12(e).

(f) If a Change in Control has not occurred and if the Committee determines that a Participant has taken action inimical to the best interests of any Participating Company, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, terminate in whole or in part such portion of any Option or Right as has not yet become exercisable at the time of termination, terminate any performance-based Award which has not yet been paid or for which the Performance Period has not been completed, or terminate any Award of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Unit for which the Restriction Period has not lapsed.

### **13. Amendment or Termination**

(a) The Board may, at any time and from time to time, alter, amend, modify, suspend or terminate the Plan in whole or in part; *provided, however*, no amendment shall be effective until approved by the Company's stockholders if such approval is required under Applicable Law, including listing or other requirements of the national securities exchange upon which the Stock is then listed, including amendments that: (i) increase the total number of shares of Stock available for issuance under the Plan, except as provided in Section 14 or (ii) cause Options or Rights issued under the Plan to be repriced or otherwise modified in a manner contemplated under Section 5(j) of the Plan. No amendment, modification or termination of the Plan shall in any manner materially and adversely affect any Award previously granted under the Plan without the consent of the Participant unless such amendment is required to comply with Applicable Law; provided, however, for the avoidance of doubt, that (x) any change pursuant to and in accordance with the requirements of Section 10, (y) any acceleration of payments of amounts accrued under the Plan by action or other features of the Plan prospectively under the Plan shall not be deemed to violate this provision.

(b) No Awards shall be granted under this Plan after it has terminated. The termination of the Plan, however, shall not alter or impair any of the rights or obligations of any Participant without consent under any Award

previously granted under the Plan. After the termination of the Plan, any previously granted Awards shall remain in effect and shall continue to be governed by the terms of the Plan and the applicable Award Agreement.

### 14. Adjustments in Event of Change in Common Stock and Change in Control

(a) In connection with any Equity Restructuring, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 14, the Committee shall equitably adjust the terms of the Plan and each outstanding Award as it deems appropriate to reflect the Equity Restructuring, which may include (i) adjusting the number and type of securities subject to each outstanding Award and/or with respect to which Awards may be granted under the Plan; (ii) adjusting the terms and conditions of (including the grant or exercise price), and the performance goals or other criteria included in, outstanding Awards; and (iii) granting new Awards or making cash payments to Participants. The adjustments provided under this Section 14(a) will be final and binding on all interested parties, including the affected Participant and the Company; provided that the Committee will determine whether an adjustment is equitable.

(b) In the event of any dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash (other than customary cash dividends in the ordinary course), Stock, other securities, or other property), reorganization, merger, consolidation, split-up, spin off, combination, amalgamation, repurchase, recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution, or sale, transfer, exchange or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company, or sale or exchange of Stock or other securities of the Company, Change in Control, issuance of warrants or other rights to purchase Stock or other securities of the Company, other similar corporate transaction or event, other unusual or nonrecurring transaction or event affecting the Company or its financial statements or any change in any Applicable Law or accounting principles, the Committee, on such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate, either by the terms of the Award or by action taken prior to the occurrence of such transaction or event (except that action to give effect to a change in Applicable Law or accounting principles may be made within a reasonable period of time after such change), is hereby authorized to take any one or more of the following actions whenever the Committee determines that such action is appropriate in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits intended by the Company to be made available under the Plan or with respect to any Award granted or issued under the Plan, to facilitate such transaction or event, give effect to such changes in Applicable Laws or accounting principles, or otherwise:

(i) To provide for the cancellation of any such Award in exchange for either an amount of cash or other property with a value equal to the amount that could have been obtained upon the exercise or settlement of the vested portion of such Award or realization of the Participant's rights under the vested portion of such Award, as applicable; provided that, if the amount that could have been obtained upon the exercise or settlement of the vested portion of such Award or realization of the Participant's rights, in any case, is equal to or less than zero, then the Award may be terminated without payment;

(ii) To provide that such Award shall vest and, to the extent applicable, be exercisable, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan or the provisions of such Award;

(iii) To provide that such Award be assumed by the successor or survivor corporation or entity, or a parent or subsidiary thereof, or shall be substituted for by awards covering the stock of the successor or survivor corporation or entity, or a parent or subsidiary thereof, with appropriate adjustments as to the number and kind of shares and/or applicable exercise or purchase price, in all cases, as determined by the Committee;

(iv) To make adjustments in the number and type of shares of Stock (or other securities or property) subject to outstanding Awards and/or with respect to which Awards may be granted under the Plan (including, but not limited to, adjustments of the aggregate number of shares of Stock that may be issued under Section 3(a)) and/or in the terms and conditions of (including the grant or purchase price), and the criteria included in, outstanding Awards;

(v) To replace such Award with other rights or property selected by the Committee; and/or

(vi) To provide that the Award will terminate and cannot vest, be exercised or become payable after the applicable event.



In taking any action permitted under this Section 14(b), the Committee will not be required to treat all Awards similarly in the transaction.

### **15. Clawback Policy**

Except following a Change in Control, if the Participant terminates employment in breach of any covenants and conditions subsequent set forth in Section 16 and becomes employed by a competitor of the Company within one year after the date of exercise of any Option or the receipt or payment of any Award, the Participant shall pay to the Company an amount equal to any gain from the exercise of the Option or the value of the Award other than Options, in each case measured by the amount reported as taxable compensation to the Participant by the Company for federal and/or provincial income tax purposes and in the case of Options that are incentive stock options, in an amount equal to the amount that would have been reported as taxable income were such Options not incentive stock options, and in each case without regard to any subsequent fluctuation in the market price of the shares of Stock. Any such amount due hereunder shall be paid by the authorized agents of the Company. By accepting an Option or other Award hereunder, the Participant is authorizing the Company to withhold, to the extent permitted by law, the amount owed to the Company hereunder from any amounts that the Company may owe to the Participant in any capacity whatsoever.

All Awards granted under the Plan will be subject to recoupment in accordance with any clawback policy that the Company is required to adopt pursuant to the listing standards of any national securities exchange or association on which the Company's securities are listed or as otherwise required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act or other applicable law, as well as any clawback policy that the Company may otherwise adopt, to the extent applicable and permissible under applicable law.

### **16. Conditions Subsequent**

Except after a Change in Control, the exercise of any Option or Right and the receipt or payment of any Award shall be subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions subsequent which shall apply while the Participant is employed by a Participating Company and for a period of one (1) year after termination of employment with the Participating Companies: (i) that the Participant refrain from engaging in any activity that in the opinion of the Committee is competitive with any activity of the Company or any Subsidiary, excluding any activity undertaken upon the written approval or request of the Company, (ii) that the Participant refrain from otherwise acting in a manner inimical or in any way contrary to the best interests of the Company, and (iii) that the Participant furnish the Company such information with respect to the satisfaction of the foregoing conditions subsequent as the Committee shall reasonably request.

### 17. Miscellaneous

(a) Nothing in this Plan or any Award granted hereunder shall confer upon any employee any right to continue in the employ of any Participating Company or interfere in any way with the right of any Participating Company to terminate his or her employment at any time. No Award payable under the Plan shall be deemed salary or compensation for the purpose of computing benefits under any employee benefit plan or other arrangement of any Participating Company for the benefit of its employees unless the Company shall determine otherwise. No Participant shall have any claim to an Award until it is actually granted under the Plan. To the extent that any person acquires a right to receive payments from the Company under this Plan, such right shall be no greater than the right of an unsecured general creditor of the Company. All payments to be made hereunder shall be paid from the general funds of the Company and no special or separate fund shall be established and no segregation of assets shall be made to assure payment of such amounts except as provided in Section 6(d) with respect to Restricted Stock.

(b) The Committee may cause to be made, as a condition precedent to the payment of any Award, or otherwise, appropriate arrangements with the Participant or his or her Beneficiary, for the withholding of any federal, provincial, state, local or foreign taxes. The Company or any other Participating Company shall have the right and power to deduct from all payments or distributions hereunder, or require a Participant to remit to the Company promptly upon notification of the amount due, an amount (which may include shares of Stock) to satisfy any federal, provincial, state, local or foreign taxes or other obligations required by law to be withheld with respect thereto with respect to any Award. The Company may defer payments of cash or issuance or delivery of Stock until such withholding requirements are satisfied. The Committee may, in its discretion, require a Participant or permit a Participant to elect, subject to such conditions as the Committee shall impose, (i) to have shares of Stock otherwise issuable under the Plan withheld by the Company or (ii) to deliver to the Company previously acquired shares of Common Stock (through actual tender or attestation), in either case for the greatest number of whole shares having a Fair Market Value on the date immediately preceding the date of exercise or vesting not in excess of the amount to be used for tax withholding, in the Committee's discretion.

(c) The Plan and the grant of Awards shall be subject to all Applicable Law and to such approvals by any government or regulatory agency as may be required.

(d) The terms of the Plan shall be binding upon the Company and its successors and assigns.

(e) Captions preceding the sections hereof are inserted solely as a matter of convenience and in no way define or limit the scope or intent of any provision hereof.

(f) An Award and a Participant's rights and interest under the Award, may not be sold, assigned or transferred, hypothecated or encumbered in whole or in part either directly or by operation of law or otherwise (except in the event of a participant's death) including, but not by way of limitation, execution, levy, garnishment, attachment, pledge, bankruptcy or in any other manner; provided, however, that the Committee may allow a participant to assign or transfer without consideration an Award to one or more members of his immediate family, to a partnership of which the only partners are the Participant or members of the Participant's immediate family, to a trust established by the Participant for the exclusive benefit of the Participant or one or more members of his immediate family.

### 18. Provisions Related to Code Section 409A

(a) To the extent applicable, the Plan and Awards granted hereunder are intended to be compliant with (or exempt from) the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, and the Plan and Award Agreements shall be interpreted and administered accordingly, though no guarantee or warranty of such compliance is made to any individual.

(b) Notwithstanding anything in the Plan or in any Award Agreement to the contrary, to the extent that any amount or benefit that would constitute non-exempt "deferred compensation" for purposes of Section 409A of the Code would otherwise be payable or distributable under the Plan or any Award Agreement by reason of the occurrence of a Change in Control, or the Participant's Total Disability or separation from service, such amount or benefit will not be payable or distributable to the Participant by reason of such circumstance unless (i) the circumstances giving rise to such Change in Control, Total Disability or separation from service, meet any description or definition of "change in control event", "disability" or "separation from service," as the case may be, in Code Section 409A and applicable regulations (without giving effect to any elective provisions that may be available under such definition), or (ii) the payment or distribution of such amount or benefit would be exempt from the application of Code Section 409A by reason of the short-term deferral exemption or otherwise. This provision does not prohibit the vesting of any Award. If this provision prevents the payment or distribution date or event specified in the Award Agreement that is permissible under Code Section 409A.

(c) Notwithstanding anything in the Plan or in any Award Agreement to the contrary, if any amount or benefit that would constitute non-exempt "deferred compensation" for purposes of Code Section 409A would otherwise



be payable or distributable under this Plan or any Award Agreement by reason of a Participant's separation from service during a period in which the Participant is a Specified Employee (as defined below), then, subject to any permissible acceleration of payment by the Committee under Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-3(j)(4)(ii) (domestic relations order), (j)(4)(iii) (conflicts of interest), or (j)(4)(vi) (payment of employment taxes):

(i) if the payment or distribution is payable in a lump sum, the Participant's right to receive payment or distribution of such non-exempt deferred compensation will be delayed until the earlier of the Participant's death or the first day of the seventh month following the Participant's separation from service; and

(ii) if the payment or distribution is payable over time, the amount of such non-exempt deferred compensation that would otherwise be payable during the six-month period immediately following the Participant's separation from service will be accumulated and the Participant's right to receive payment or distribution of such accumulated amount will be delayed until the earlier of the Participant's death or the first day of the seventh month following the Participant's separation from service, whereupon the accumulated amount will be paid or distributed to the Participant and the normal payment or distribution schedule for any remaining payments or distributions will resume.

For purposes of this Plan, the term "Specified Employee" has the meaning given such term in Code Section 409A and the final regulations thereunder, provided, however, that, as permitted in such final regulations, the Company's Specified Employees and its application of the six-month delay rule of Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) shall be determined in accordance with any rules adopted by the Board or any committee of the Board, which shall be applied consistently with respect to all nonqualified deferred compensation arrangements of the Company, including this Plan.

(d) If any one or more Awards granted under the Plan to a Participant could qualify for any separation pay exemption described in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-1(b)(9), but such Awards in the aggregate exceed the dollar limit permitted for the separation pay exemptions, the Company shall determine which Awards or portions thereof will be subject to such exemptions.

(e) If, pursuant to an Award, a Participant is entitled to a series of installment payments, such Participant's right to the series of installment payments shall be treated as a right to a series of separate payments and not to a single payment. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term "series of installment payments" has the meaning provided in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-2(b)(2)(iii) (or any successor thereto).

(f) Notwithstanding anything in the Plan or any Award Agreement to the contrary, each Participant shall be solely responsible for the tax consequences of Awards, and in no event shall the Company have any responsibility or liability if an Award does not meet any applicable requirements of Section 409A. Although the Company intends to administer the Plan to prevent taxation under Section 409A, the Company does not represent or warrant that the Plan or any Award complies with Section 409A or any other provision of federal, state, local or other tax law.

### 19. Effective Date, Term of Plan and Stockholder Approval

The effective date of the Plan, as amended, is the date of stockholder approval at the Company's 2023 annual meeting (the "Effective Date"). Upon the Effective Date, no further awards shall be granted under the Prior Plan. The Plan shall terminate upon the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date or, if earlier, upon the adoption of a resolution of the Board terminating the Plan.

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# Appendix E

### Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Audit Committee Policies and Procedures

### PRE-APPROVAL OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

To ensure the Audit Committee (the "Committee") approves all services to be provided by the Company's independent auditors and maintains appropriate oversight, the following policies and procedures have been established.

### **Policies and Procedures**

- 1. The Committee will approve the fees for the annual audit of the Company's financial statements and reviews of quarterly financial statements.
- 2. The Committee will also approve at one of its regularly scheduled meetings an annual plan of all permissible services to be provided by the independent auditors as well as unanticipated projects that arise.
- 3. When the timing of the services does not allow for pre-approval in regularly scheduled Committee meetings, the Chair of the Committee (or another member of the Committee so designated) may approve any audit or allowable non-audit services provided that such approved services are reported to the full Committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Approval must be received prior to commencement of the service, unless the service is one of the specific services listed below (see No. 4) that is permitted to be performed on a pre-approval basis.
- 4. The following audit-related services are pre-approved as they become required and need commencement before notifying the Chair:
  - a. Required audits of wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Company
  - b. Consent letters
  - c. Audits of statutory financial statements in countries where audited financial statements must be filed with government bodies
  - d. Annual audits of the Company's defined benefit and savings plans
  - e. Agreed-upon procedures or other special report engagements performed in connection with requirements under debt agreements or environmental laws; and
  - f. Subscription services for technical accounting resources and updates

This pre-approval (prior to notifying the Committee) is for audit services or allowable audit-related services engagements for which fees are less than \$10,000.

Any services performed in these pre-approved services categories that were not anticipated will be reported to the Committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting after commencement of the services. The requirements, scope and objectives of the service as well as estimated fees and timing will be reported to the Committee.

Any other services, such as for tax services unrelated to the audit, will require the explicit approval of the Chair or the Committee prior to engaging the independent auditor.

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## Appendix F

## **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

### Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc. Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures December 31, 2022 (Unaudited)

### **EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA**

EBITDA is defined as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. Adjusted EBITDA-continuing operations is defined as EBITDA-continuing operations adjusted for a settlement of certain pension plans, severance costs associated with an executive departure and gain on debt extinguishment.

Loss from Continuing Operations is reconciled to EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA as follows:

		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
(IN MILLIONS)	2022	2021	2020	
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (27)	\$ (50)	\$ (38)	
Depreciation and amortization	135	139	137	
Interest expense, net	64	66	56	
Income tax expense (benefit)	1	(35)	(61)	
EBITDA-continuing operations	173	120	94	
Pension settlement (gain) loss	1	8	(2)	
Severance	4	-	-	
(Gain) loss on debt extinguishment	(1)	(1)	8	
Adjusted EBITDA-continuing operations	\$177	\$127	\$100	



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