

### Corporates | ESG Research

# **Midstream Energy ESG Management Questionnaire**

Kroll Bond Rating Agency (KBRA) recently published the <u>Midstream Energy Companies and ESG Risk Management</u> report, which explains how environmental, social, and governance factors could impact Midstream Energy companies. At KBRA, we believe it is critical that a management team understands its ESG risks. Assessing management performance and capability has long held a prominent role within KBRA, and so it is a natural evolution to question how management identifies and addresses its ESG-related credit risks.

# **KBRA's Management Questionnaire**

KBRA has many conversations with management as part of its due diligence process. A portion of these discussions have increasingly focused on how management plans for and manages ESG-related risks and opportunities. In response to investor inquires, KBRA thought it would be helpful to provide examples of some questions that may be raised throughout this process:

- 1. How do the ESG policy preferences of your investors, customers, or other constituents' impact your business?
- 2. Do you have physical or financial assets that are at risk under various climate change scenarios? How do you determine such risk?
- 3. What are your annual greenhouse and CO<sup>2</sup> emissions levels? Explain your measurement/analysis. Are there any self-initiated or third-party required plans to reduce them? How is the Company measuring its progress toward its stated goals? What is your exposure to a potential carbon tax?
- 4. How is the Company adapting its business strategy to account for the energy transition?
- 5. What types of cyber threats are of greatest concern to your operations? How does your business manage cybersecurity threats?
- 6. How prepared is your business for anticipated social, technological, and demographic changes?
- 7. What environmental risks/opportunities have you identified that could impact the revenue generation potential of the Company?
- 8. What type of mitigation measures are in place in the event of increasing natural hazard-induced technological disasters and other ecological hazards to protect staff and ongoing operations?
- 9. How does the Company account for and monitor the occurrence of spills and other leakages during the transportation process?
- 10. Does the Company have ongoing dialogue with politicians, landowners, regulators, and community members regarding its role in energy policy?
- 11. How does the Company address adversarial permitting, right-of-way and/or construction issues?
- 12. Have you had any opinions or misstatements identified by auditors on your financial statements? Have you had any other relevant regulatory/legal findings?

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