Climate Rights International Donor Conflicts Policy

In order to protect the organization’s credibility and reputation, CRI will not seek, and reserves the right to decline, refuse, or return, contributions from entities or individuals whose behavior or core activities are in direct conflict with its mission, which may give rise to serious questions about CRI’s independence, or where the acceptance thereof could cause significant reputational damage to the organization or negatively reflect on the organization’s credibility. This includes, but is not limited to, contributions from entities on which the organization is conducting research or advocacy campaigns related to their climate or human rights practices or policies.

This policy applies not only to entities in question, but also to any person who is in a position of authority and controls the decision-making process, including controlling shareholders, top-level executives, and/or similar controlling stakeholders, of the entities.

The Executive Director of CRI will make the decision regarding what is deemed a conflict of interest in consultation with the development staff and other relevant staff in the organization. If the Executive Director determines that a significant risk of a conflict does not exist, but a staff member disagrees, the staff member may inform the board of directors and ask the board to consult with the Executive Director to ensure compliance with this policy.

While CRI does not have the internal resources to vet all unsolicited contributions, it will review all actual or offered contributions of $50,000 or more to ensure compliance with this policy. In addition, the Executive Director will inform the board of directors of any contribution of $50,000 or more accepted or declined to facilitate effective board oversight of this policy and ensure that no single contribution can unduly influence the organization’s mission and purpose.

Approved by the Board of Directors