



Press Release

Fontus Water Limited (Earth Water Limited)

September 20, 2024

Ratings

Instrument / Facility	Amount (Rs. crore)	Current Ratings	Previous Ratings	Rating Action	Complexity Indicator
Long Term Bank Facilities	54.00	IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING* (IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING) *	IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING* (IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING) *	Reaffirmed and continued under ISSUER NOT COOPERATING category	Simple
Short Term Bank Facilities	112.00	IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING* (IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING) *	IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING* (IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING) *	Reaffirmed and continued under ISSUER NOT COOPERATING category	Simple
Total	Rs. 166.00 (Rupees One Hundred and Sixty-Six Crore Only)				

**Issuer did not cooperate; based on best available information*

Details of Facilities/Instruments are in Annexure 1. Facility wise lender details are at Annexure 2. Detailed explanation of covenants is at Annexure 3.

Detailed Rationale

Infomerics has reaffirmed the ratings assigned to bank facilities of Earth Water Limited and rating continues to remain under Issuer Not Cooperating Category. The rating action reflects lack of adequate information available and the uncertainty around its credit risk. Infomerics assesses whether the information available about the entity is commensurate with its rating and reviews the same as per its policy.

The lenders, investors and other market participants are thus advised to exercise appropriate caution while using this rating as the rating may not adequately reflect the credit risk profile of the entity.



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Non-cooperation by Issuer

Infomerics has been regularly following up with the company to provide the required data & NDS to monitor its assigned rating to the bank facilities, vide mail communications dated September 13, 2024, September 16, 2024, September 17, 2024, and September 18, 2024, and concurrently over several phone calls. However, despite repeated requests by Infomerics, the company's management has not submitted the essential details/information for surveillance exercise.

Availability of information is very critical in the rating exercise. In the absence of the requisite information, in consonance with SEBI guidelines, Infomerics has to assign the rating based on the best available information.

Accordingly, the rating for the bank facilities of Earth Water Limited aggregating to Rs.166.00 crore has been reaffirmed at IVR D and continued under ISSUER NOT COOPERATING' category by Infomerics.

Analytical Approach: Standalone

Applicable Criteria:

[Policy on Issuer Not-Cooperating](#)

[Policy on Default Recognition and Post – Default Curing Period](#)

[Rating Methodology for Manufacturing Companies](#)

[Financial Ratios & Interpretation \(Non-Financial Sector\)](#)

[Complexity Level of Rated Instruments/Facilities](#)

About the Company

Earth Water Limited (EWL, erstwhile Fontus Water Private Limited) effectively commenced operations from 2001, which primarily consists of supplying various types of water treatment plants and equipment, and undertaking EPC projects for recycling wastewater, which includes use of Zero Liquid Discharge, Desalination and other advanced techniques to make water fit for industrial use and for human consumption.



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Financials (Standalone):

(Rs. crore)

For the year ended/ As on*	31-03-2017	31-03-2018
	Audited	Audited
Total Operating Income	361.00	433.27
EBITDA	34.64	58.41
PAT	12.15	27.65
Total Debt	123.37	151.03
Tangible Net Worth	87.81	130.24
EBITDA Margin (%)	9.60	13.48
PAT Margin (%)	3.37	6.38
Overall Gearing Ratio (x)	0.71	0.86
Interest Coverage (x)	2.71	4.28

* Classification as per Infomerics' standards.

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Brickwork Ratings has continued to classify the bank facilities under the ISSUER NOT CO-OPERATING category on account of non – availability of information vide it's press release dated on Aug 30, 2024

Any other information:

Rating History for last three years:

Sr. No	Name of Security/ Facilities	Current Ratings (2024-25)			Rating History for the past 3 years		
		Type	Amount outstanding (Rs. Crore)	Rating	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2023-24	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2022-23	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2021-22
					(June 13, 2023)	(June 01, 2022)	
1.	Cash Credit	Long Term	54.00	IVR D; ISSUER NOT CO-OPERATING*	IVR D; ISSUER NOT CO-OPERATING*	IVR D; ISSUER NOT CO-OPERATING*	--
2.	Bank Guarantee	Short Term	112.00	IVR D; ISSUER NOT CO-OPERATING*	IVR D; ISSUER NOT CO-OPERATING*	IVR D; ISSUER NOT CO-OPERATING*	--

*Issuer did not cooperate; based on best available information

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About Infomerics:

Infomerics Valuation and Rating Private Ltd (Infomerics) was founded in the year 1986 by a team of highly experienced finance professionals for research and risk evaluation. Infomerics commenced its activities as External Credit Assessment Institution after obtaining registration from Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and accreditation from Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Adhering to best international practices and maintaining high degree of ethics, the team of analysts at Infomerics deliver quality credit ratings. Infomerics evaluates wide range of debt instruments which helps corporates access to financial markets and provides investors credit ratings backed by in-depth research. The transparent, robust, and credible ratings have gained the confidence of investors and the banks.

Infomerics has a pan India presence with Head Office in Delhi and Corporate Office at Mumbai, with branches in major cities and representatives in several locations.

Infomerics also has international presence with credit rating operations in Nepal through its JV subsidiary.

For more information and definition of ratings please visit www.infomerics.com.

Disclaimer: Infomerics ratings are based on information provided by the issuer on an 'as is where is' basis. Infomerics credit ratings are an opinion on the credit risk of the issue / issuer and not a recommendation to buy, hold or sell securities. Infomerics reserves the right to change or withdraw the credit ratings at any point in time. Infomerics ratings are opinions on financial statements based on information provided by the management and information obtained from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable. The credit quality ratings are not recommendations to sanction, renew, disburse or recall the concerned bank facilities or to buy, sell or hold any security. We, however, do not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of any information, which we accepted and presumed to be free from misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. We are not responsible for any errors or omissions or for the results obtained from the use of such information. Most entities whose bank facilities/instruments are rated by us have paid a credit rating fee, based on the amount and type of bank facilities/instruments. In case of partnership/proprietary concerns/Association of Persons (AOPs), the rating assigned by Infomerics is based on the capital deployed by the partners/proprietor/ AOPs and the financial strength of the firm at present. The rating may undergo change in case of withdrawal of capital or the unsecured loans brought in by the partners/proprietor/ AOPs in addition to the financial performance and other relevant factors.



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Annexure 1: Instrument/Facility Details

Name of Facility/ /Security	ISIN	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate/ IRR	Maturity Date	Size of Facility (Rs. Crore)	Rating Assigned/ Outlook
Cash Credit	--	--	--	--	54.00	IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING*
Bank Guarantee	--	--	--	--	112.00	IVR D; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING*

**Issuer did not cooperate; based on best available information*

Annexure 2: List of companies considered for consolidated analysis: Not Applicable

Annexure 3: Facility wise lender details: Not Applicable

Annexure 4: Detailed explanation of covenants of the rated instrument/facilities: Not Applicable

Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument: Infomerics has classified instruments rated by it on the basis of complexity and a note thereon is available at www.infomerics.com.