

NEPCon Evaluation of State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise” Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

Scope Change Audit

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Completed in accordance with the CB Public Summary Report Template Version 1.4

*For further information on the SBP Framework and to view the full set of documentation see
www.sbp-cert.org*

Document history

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1 Overview

CB Name and contact:	NEPCon OÜ, Filosoofi 31, 50108 Tartu, Estonia
Primary contact for SBP:	Ondrej Tarabus ot@nepcon.org, +420 606 730 382
Current report completion date:	17/Oct/2019
Report authors: :	Ondrej Tarabus
Name of the Company:	State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise”
Company contact for SBP:	Nadzeya Polochanina, quality engineer
Certified Supply Base:	sourcing from territory of State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise”
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP -01-57
Date of certificate issue:	03/Feb/2017
Date of certificate expiry:	03/Feb/2022

This report relates to the Scope Change Audit

2 Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate

The certificate scope covers production of wood pellets, for use in energy production, at State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise” and transportation by rail to Belarusian/Latvian border, Bigosovo railway station. The scope of the certificate does not include Supply Base Evaluation. The scope includes communication of Dynamic Batch Sustainability Data.

3 Specific objective

The specific objective of this evaluation was to confirm that the Biomass Producer's management system is capable of ensuring that all requirements of specified SBP Standards are implemented across the entire scope of certification.

The scope of the evaluation covered:

- Review of the BP's management procedures,
- Review of the production processes, production site visit,
- Review of FSC system control points, analysis of the existing FSC CoC system,
- Interviews with responsible staff,
- Review of the records, calculations and conversion coefficients,
- GHG data collection analysis,
- Instruction Document 5D;

4 SBP Standards utilised

4.1 SBP Standards utilised

Please select all SBP Standards used during this evaluation. All Standards can be accessed and downloaded from <https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/standards>

- SBP Framework Standard 1: Feedstock Compliance Standard (Version 1.0, 26 March 2015)
- SBP Framework Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock (Version 1.0, 26 March 2015)
- SBP Framework Standard 4: Chain of Custody (Version 1.0, 26 March 2015)
- SBP Framework Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data (Version 1.0, 26 March 2015)

4.2 SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessment

Not applicable. Supply Base Evaluation is not covered by the Scope of the Evaluation

5 Description of Company, Supply Base and Forest Management

5.1 Description of Company

State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise” is situated in the south-west part of Vitebsk Region, Belarus. The enterprise comprises nine forest districts, production and logging facilities and a base nursery. The company is involved in forestry, wood harvesting, wood processing and trade both within the country and abroad. It is responsible for 74.3 thousands ha of forest territory.

The Organisation holds valid FSC FM/Chain of Custody certificate with FSC transfer system in the scope. State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise” for the production of fuel pellets uses only the FSC 100% certified wood which grows in the territory of forest fund of the entity. The following categories of raw materials are used for production of pellets: wood chips (chipped slab wood and offcuts), sawdust.

The following categories of raw materials are used for drier: Wood chips (slab wood and offcuts).

5.2 Description of Company’s Supply Base

The supply base of the organization is the total territory of State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise”.

Forests are the dominant vegetation type on the territory of State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise”. The territory of the FE is covered by forests of temperate biome. According to the Belarusian forest vegetation zonation the territory is located in the zone of broadleaves-spruce forest of Oshmyany-Minsk region of Minsk-Borisov forest complex massive. In general, pine is dominating specie on the territory of the FE. The structure of the FME includes eight forest districts. It is responsible for 74.3 thousand ha of forest resources including 63.2 thousand ha of woodlands. Forests of the 1st group (with a level of protection) occupy 23.9 thousand ha, while forests of the 2nd group (forest exploration with some restrictions) occupy 50.4 thousand ha. 53 years is the average forest age.

The age class distribution of forests of Begoml FE is as follows and presented on graph below:

Young stands – 27%;

Medium stands – 38%;

Pre-mature stands – 28%;

Mature and over mature stands – 7%.

Forests age structure is not optimal taking into account overstated number of medium stands and understated number of mature forests.

The main objective of forest management in the State Forestry Institution “Begoml Forestry Enterprise is to provide the continuous, stable, sustainable, cost-effective, multi-purpose, environmentally responsible and socially oriented forest management that to meet the needs of society in raw materials and to preserve and enhance the ecological functions of forests and to conserve biodiversity in forest ecosystems.

For details see the BP internet site <https://begomlles.by/ru/2019-god>

5.3 Detailed description of Supply Base

Total Supply Base area (ha): 74314 ha

Tenure by type (ha): 74314 ha state ownership, 0 million ha private forests and 0 million ha other ownership types.

Forest by type (ha): 74314 ha temperate forests

Forest by management type (ha): 74314 ha managed semi-natural

Certified forest by scheme (ha): FSC - total certified area 74314 ha

PEFC – total certified area 74314 ha

Quantitative description of the Supply Base can be found in the Supply Base Report of the Biomass Producer <https://begomiles.by/ru/2019-god>

5.4 Chain of Custody system

The Organisation holds valid FSC FM/COC certificate (SGS-FM/COC-007101). Critical control points of the FSC CoC system were evaluated also during SBP audit.

The Organisation has implemented FSC transfer system. The input material used by the Organisation for biomass production as well as for drier contains secondary feedstock – sawdust and wood industry residues for pellet production. All feedstock is FSC certified and originates only from forest area of the BP.

6 Evaluation process

6.1 Timing of evaluation activities

Audit start 05.09.2019 from reviewing of documents. Onsite audit was conducted on September 9, 2019 (7h). Audit activities included documents review at office, inspection of production facilities and staff interviews.

Scope change audit was conducted on 17th October.

Action	Place	Auditor	date/ time
Review of documents	Minsk	Aliaksandr Zubkevich	05.09.2019
Introduction meeting (Appr at 9.00-9.15)	Office of State Forestry Institution "Begoml Forestry Enterprise"	Aliaksandr Zubkevich	09.09.2019 9.00-9.15
Analyse of the organization SBP system; Staff interview; Documents review procedure, instructions, training minutes, group products list, suppliers list and etc. Analyse of FSC COC system. Checking of critical points. Review of GHG date calculation, interview with staff Visit of pellet factory and laboratory, staff interview, review of records List of reviewed processes (visited departments): 1) purchase and acceptance of raw material 2) moisture measurement of raw material and products (operator);	Office of State Forestry Institution "Begoml Forestry Enterprise" Pellet factory		10.15-12.30; 13.30-17.30

3) production and accounting (bookkeeping);			
4) Use of resources (electrician, mechanic);			
5) Realisation and sales. Work with clients			
Lunch time 12.30-13.30	Office of State Forestry Institution "Begoml Forestry Enterprise"		
Final meeting 16.30-17:00	Office of State Forestry Institution "Begoml Forestry Enterprise"		

6.2 Description of evaluation activities

The audit visit was focused on management system evaluation: division of the responsibilities, document and system, input material classification (reception and registration), analysis of the existing FSC system and FSC system control points as well as the collection of the energy and emission data.

Description of the audit evaluation:

All SBP related documentation connected to the SBP as well as FSC system of the organisation, including SBP Procedures, GHG related data, Supply Base Reports, were evaluated during the audit.

Auditor was welcomed in the company. Audit started with an opening meeting attended by the director.

Auditor introduced himself, provided information about audit plan, methodology, auditor qualification, confidentiality issues, and assessment methodology and clarified verification scope. During the opening meeting the auditor explained CB's approval related issues.

After that auditor went through all applicable requirements of the SBP standards nr.2, 4, 5 and instruction documents 5a, 5b, 5c covering input clarification, existing chain of custody system, management system, CoC, recordkeeping/mass balance requirements, emission and energy data and categorisation of input and verification of SBP compliant feedstock/ biomass. During the process, overall responsible person for SBP system and as well as other persons having key responsibilities within the system were interviewed.

After that roundtrip around BP's pellet production was undertaken. During the site tour reception process were observed, applicable records were reviewed, pellet factory staff was interviewed and FSC system critical control points were analysed.

At the end of the audit findings were summarised and audit conclusion based on use of 3 angle evaluation method were provided to the representative of the company. After the audit the final review of the SAR document and additional evidence provided by the organization was done. The outcomes of this additional review were discussed with the company over phone.

The scope change audit visit was focused on adding instruction 5D in the scope of certificate.

Description of the audit evaluation:

The responsible for SBP certification has send updated procedure. Auditor went through all applicable requirements instruction document 5D. During the process overall responsible person for SBP system was interviewed via phone.

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6.3 Process for consultation with stakeholders

No Consultation was conducted for this surveillance audit.

7 Results

7.1 Main strengths and weaknesses

Strength: Use of production residuals only from own sawmill. All elements of SBP system are implemented. Use of the FSC transfer system and control of all incoming materials at the level of sawdust reception and production process.

Weaknesses: There are no any weaknesses identified

7.2 Rigour of Supply Base Evaluation

Not applicable

7.3 Collection and Communication of Data

The BP has system in place of recording of data.

7.4 Competency of involved personnel

The SBP responsible person in the company is quality engineer. The SBP responsible person has shown good understanding of the requirements in relation to SBP certification and of the already implemented FSC CoC system.

7.5 Stakeholder feedback

No stakeholder comments were received.

7.6 Preconditions

No preconditions to this certification were identified at the time of this surveillance audit

8 Review of Company's Risk Assessments

Describe how the Certification Body assessed risk for the Indicators. Summarise the CB's final risk ratings in Table 1, together with the Company's final risk ratings. Default for each indicator is 'Low', click on the rating to change. Note: this summary should show the risk ratings before AND after the SVP has been performed and after any mitigation measures have been implemented.

Not applicable

9 Review of Company's mitigation measures

Not applicable

10 Non-conformities and observations

Identify all non-conformities and observations raised/closed during the evaluation (a tabular format below may be used here). Please use as many copies of the table as needed. For each, give details to include at least the following:

- *applicable requirement(s)*
- *grading of the non-conformity (major or minor) or observation with supporting rationale*
- *timeframe for resolution of the non-conformity*
- *a statement as to whether the non-conformity is likely to impact upon the integrity of the affected SBP-certified products and the credibility of the SBP trademarks.*

No

11 Certification decision

Based on the auditor's recommendation and the Certification Body's quality review, the following certification decision is taken:	
Certification decision:	Certification approved
Certification decision by (name of the person):	Pilar Gorría Serrano
Date of decision:	17/Oct/2019
Other comments:	<i>Click or tap here to enter text.</i>