

SBP

Sustainable Biomass Program

NEPCon Evaluation of Research and Production Enterprise “ECOFUEL” LLC Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

Main (Initial) 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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Table of Contents

1	Overview
2	Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate
3	Specific objective
4	SBP Standards utilised
5	Description of Company, Supply Base and Forest Management
5.1	Description of Company
5.2	Description of Company's Supply Base
5.3	Detailed description of Supply Base
5.4	Chain of Custody system
6	Evaluation process
6.1	Timing of evaluation activities
6.2	Description of evaluation activities
6.3	Process for consultation with stakeholders
7	Results
7.1	Main strengths and weaknesses
7.2	Rigour of Supply Base Evaluation
7.3	Collection and Communication of Data
7.4	Competency of involved personnel
7.5	Stakeholder feedback
7.6	Preconditions
8	Review of Company's Risk Assessments
9	Review of Company's mitigation measures
10	Non-conformities and observations
11	Certification decision

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:	04/Jan/2019
Report authors: :	Nikolai Tochilov
Name of the Company:	Research and Production Enterprise "ECOFUEL" LLC
Company contact for SBP:	Evgeniy Filimonov, commercial director. Phone: +7 985 9218505; Email: filimonov@anonots.ru
Certified Supply Base:	n/a – all input material is tertiary feedstock (post-consumer wood)
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-07-10
Date of certificate issue:	08/Jan/2019
Date of certificate expiry:	07/Jan/2024

This report relates to the Main (Initial) Audit

2 Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate

The certificate scope covers the office and production site in Kaliningrad, Russia.

Scope description: Production of wood pellets in Kaliningrad, Russia, for use in energy production. Post production end points are: plant gate (ExWorks or FCA, Incoterms) and Kaliningrad sea port (FCA, Incoterms). All input material is tertiary feedstock (post-consumer wood). The scope of the certificate does not include Supply Base Evaluation.

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

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.

5 Description of Company, Supply Base and Forest Management

5.1 Description of Company

Research and Production Enterprise “ECOFUEL” LLC is a Biomass Producer (BP) located in the city of Kaliningrad, Russia. The BP was founded in 2018. The pellet production line is to be launched in March 2019. The establishment of the company is a result of a sustainability program of the car producer “Autotor”. BP has an exclusive, long-term contract for wood waste utilization with Autotor. BP accumulates substantial volumes of post-consumer untreated recycled material as a feedstock for the production of SBP-compliant biomass. The feedstock consists of pallets and wooden boxes made of untreated wood of low-value tree species. The pallets and wooden boxes are specially made for the car parts which Autotor procures (at different locations). The pallets and boxes are for single use and do not undergo chemical treatment; they do not contain for instance glue. Nevertheless, the feedstock is checked continuously upon receipt. If any veneer or compressed boards like OSB, or HDF are found, they are to be segregated from pellet production. Production capacity of the pellet plant is app. 12 000 tones/month.

5.2 Description of Company’s Supply Base

Not applicable - all input material is tertiary feedstock (post-consumer wood).

5.3 Detailed description of Supply Base

Not applicable - all input material is tertiary feedstock (post-consumer wood).

5.4 Chain of Custody system

The BP has recently got FSC CoC certificate: <https://info.fsc.org/details.php?id=a02f300000gKf3nAAC&type=certificate> (certificate code FSC-COC-052075). The company accumulates substantial volumes of post-consumer untreated tertiary feedstock for production of SBP-compliant biomass (used pallets and wooden boxes). The feedstock is checked upon receipt and used then in pellet production. Other feedstock is not accepted and not used by the company. All biomass will be sold with FSC Recycled 100% claim (transfer system of FSC claims).

6 Evaluation process

6.1 Timing of evaluation activities

Onsite annual audit was conducted on 13-14.12.2018 (8,5 h). Evaluation activities included documents review at office, inspection of production facilities and staff interviews.

Activity	Location	Date/time
Opening meeting*	Office	13/12/2018 11.00-11.15
Documents and procedures review, staff interview.	Office	13/12/2018 11.15-13.00
Break		13/12/2018 13.00-14.00
Chain of custody review (site tour); staff interview	Production facilities	13/12/2018 14.00-18.00
Documents and procedures review; staff interview.	Office	
Documents and procedures review; staff interview.	Office	14/12/2018 10.00-12.00
Closing meeting*	Office	14/12/2018 12.00-12.30
End of the evaluation	Office	14/12/2018 12.30

6.2 Description of evaluation activities

Composition of audit team:

Auditor(s), roles	Qualifications
Nikolai Tochilov, audit team leader	NEPCon SBP lead auditor. He has successfully passed SBP auditor training in Tallinn in January 2015; previous experience with more than 30 SBP assessments and annual audits in Russia and Europe.

The evaluation 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 GHG data availability.

Description of the audit evaluation:

All SBP related documentation connected to the SBP as well as FSC CoC system of the organisation, including SBP Procedure, SAR and GHG data calculations, Supply Base Report and FSC system description was provided by the company at the beginning of the audit. Audit started with an opening meeting attended by the representatives from Organisation’s management and staff.

Auditor introduced himself, provided information about audit plan, methodology, auditor qualification, confidentiality issues, and assessment methodology and clarified certification 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-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 biomass. During the process, overall responsible person for SBP system and other staff were interviewed.

After a roundtrip around BP’s pellet production was undertaken. During the site tour, applicable records were reviewed, staff was interviewed and FSC system critical control points were analysed.

At the end of the audit findings were summarised and audit conclusions based on use of 3 angle evaluation method were provided to the management and SBP responsible person.

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6.3 Process for consultation with stakeholders

The stakeholder consultation was carried out on November 1, 2018 by sending direct email to different stakeholder categories. No comments from the stakeholders have been received.

7 Results

7.1 Main strengths and weaknesses

Strengths: limited number of staff; transfer system of claims; only one category of incoming feedstock - post-consumer wood.

Weaknesses: no weaknesses identified during this assessment. Some of the staff positions mentioned in SBP Procedure as being responsible for specific certification requirements, were vacant at the moment of the assessment. Auditor therefore recommends conducting the first annual audit earlier than within 12 months after initial assessment – in few months after the pellet plant is commissioned.

7.2 Rigour of Supply Base Evaluation

Not applicable - all input material is tertiary feedstock (post-consumer wood).

7.3 Collection and Communication of Data

Since the pellet plant will be commissioned in March 2019, most of energy use data is based on specifications from the supplier of the equipment used in the pellet plant.

7.4 Competency of involved personnel

Overall, BP staff showed good understanding of knowledge of all applicable SBP requirements. BP was supported by external consultant, who also have provided relevant training to BP staff. Some of the staff positions mentioned in SBP Procedure as being responsible for specific certification requirements, were vacant at the moment of the assessment. Auditor therefore recommends conducting the first annual audit earlier than within 12 months after initial assessment – in few months after the pellet plant is commissioned.

7.5 Stakeholder feedback

No feedback received from stakeholders during consultation process.

7.6 Preconditions

None.

8 Review of Company's Risk Assessments

Not applicable for this evaluation.

9 Review of Company's mitigation measures

Not applicable for this evaluation.

10 Non-conformities and observations

No non-conformities identified during this assessment.

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):	Ondrej Tarabus
Date of decision:	04/Jan/2019
Other comments:	The first annual audit shall be conducted within few months after the pellet plant is commissioned. The BP shall inform the CB immediately after the production is started.