

Public Summary of the revision process for the SBP Instruction Document 2E: SBP Requirements for Risk Based Approach for Biomass Category 2

July 2019

Background

This document provides a summary of the proposed process to develop a new Instruction Document to meet the specific requirements under the Netherlands SDE+ subsidy regime for demonstrating sustainability of biomass sourced from forests under 500ha (Biomass Category 2) using a Risk Based Approach.

Purpose and Scope of the SBP Document Development Procedure

The Instruction Document specifies the requirements for the evaluation, using a Risk Based Approach, of the sustainability requirements of Category 2 feedstock as defined by the Netherlands SDE+ requirements.

Category 2 feedstock is defined as feedstock from Forest Management Units <500ha. Branches, tops, trees and primary felling residues sourced directly from forests of less than 500ha. Unused wood that has the same composition as wood growing in the forest and that has not been mixed with or contaminated by foreign materials or substances.

The Netherlands SDE+ requirements permit the evaluation of the sustainability of Biomass Category 2 to be undertaken following a Risk Based Approach.

An SBP-certified Biomass Producer (BP) may implement the Risk Based Approach defined in the Instruction Document to assess compliance with the sustainability requirements as defined under the SDE+. Biomass produced from feedstock sourced in compliance with these requirements may be supplied with Dynamic Batch Sustainability (DBS) data indicating compliance with NL SDE+ sustainability requirements for Biomass Category 2.

Objective of the revision process

To develop a new Instruction Document to enable sourcing of feedstock in line with SDE+ sustainability requirements and the supply of Biomass Category 2 products to The Netherlands.

Justification

There is currently no mechanism, across any certification scheme, to enable Biomass Category 2 products to be supplied to the Netherlands in compliance with the SDE+ requirements after 1 January 2020. Discussion with BPs and Dutch utilities has demonstrated a need for the development of a Risk Based Approach prior to the establishment of Group Schemes, as described in Instruction Document 2D.

Stakeholders have requested that the solution be published by SBP and approved by the Netherlands regulator (RVO) and to be in operation before 1 January 2020.

The Process and expected timeframe

The draft Instruction Document 2E: SBP Requirements for Risk Based Approach for Biomass Category 2 was presented to the Technical Committee during their meeting of 25 June for review and comment and was presented for review and comment to the Standards Committee during the week of 1 July 2019. This Public Summary was presented to the Stakeholder Advisory Group during the same period for review and comment.

A public consultation was launched during the week of 8 July 2019. The consultation shall remain open for 30 days, until Monday, 12 August.

If there are no substantive unresolved issues, then a revised draft will be submitted to the Technical Committee for review and comment during the week of 5 August 2019. If there are substantive unresolved issues, then a second round of consultation of at least 30 days will be undertaken.

A final draft will be presented to the Standards Committee during the week of 12 August for consideration for approval remotely.

Opportunities for contributing

All stakeholders will be able to contribute during the 30-day consultation period commencing during the week of 8 July 2019.

Decision-making process

The Standards Committee is responsible for the approval of the final document.