Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

Preferred by Nature OÜ
Evaluation of GREEN VALLEY ENERGIE

First Surveillance Audit

Sustainable Biomass Program
sbp-cert.org

Completed in accordance with the CB Public Summary Report Template Version 2.1 and SBP Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413 (REDIII)

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

Document history

Version 2.0	**Published 10 August 2023**
Version 2.1	Published 21 May 2025

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1 Overview

Certification Body (CB) Name:	Preferred by Nature OÜ
Primary CB contact for SBP:	Pilar Gorria Serrano
Primary CB contact email:	pgorria@preferredbynature.org
Audit team leader:	Francois Gambier
Audit team members:	Francois Gambier
Name of the Company:	GREEN VALLEY ENERGIE
Company legal address:	ROUTE JEAN-CHARLES PELLERIN ZONE INDUSTRIELLE III, 88190 GOLBEY, France
Company contact for SBP:	Cindy Michaux
Company contact email:	cmichaux@pearl-bioenergie.fr
Company website:	
Date of installation:	01 Jan 2025
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-13-44
Date of certificate issue:	11 Sep 2025
Date of certificate expiry:	10 Sep 2030
Audit closing meeting date:	06 May 2026
Audit cycle:	First Surveillance Audit

2 Audit conclusions

2.1 Certification decision

Based on the auditor's recommendation and the Certification Body's technical review, the following certification decision is taken:	
Certification decision:	Certification approved
Certification decision by (name of the person):	Mikhail Rai
Date of decision:	04 Aug 2026
Other comments:	N/A

2.2 Open non-conformities and observations

NC number 8833	NC Grading: Observation
Standard:	SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody v2.0
Requirement:	4.20 The Organisation shall register each transaction of SBP-certified biomass in the DTS. See SBP Guidance document: Data Transfer System 2.0 User Guide for Certificate Holders. N/A N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
The Organisation is mostly an EP. However, a part of the feedstock provided by the sole supplier can be sold after being grinded to the neighbouring CHP Norske Skog Golbey. During the audit, it was noted that one sale has been made, and invoiced the 28 April 2026. This sale hadn't been registered in the DTS yet, but the organisation has 30 days after sale date to record the transaction in the DTS (4. .1.3 of Instruction Document 5E). This will be sold with an SBP-controlled claim to non-SBP end user.	
Timeline for Conformance:	N/A
Evidence Provided by Company to close NC:	N/A
Findings for Evaluation of Evidence:	N/A
NC Status:	Open

NC number 8834	NC Grading: Minor
Standard:	Instruction Document REDII: Bridging requirements of the SBP scheme for meeting REDII. v1.2
Requirement:	6.2.8 The receiving organisation shall verify that the supplier contract, invoice and/or supporting documentation (e.g., DTS transaction, SAR, SREG, or equivalent in the case of EU RED-only claims), including associated sustainability characteristics of consignments of certified products meet the following requirements: • N/A N/A

	N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
All requested information is accessible to the End User through invoices, delivery documents, SARs and DTS. However, five transactions have been received from the supplier with the parameter “SBP EU RED II grandfathering clause” with the value “false”. The organisation and its supplier are located in France and is using grandfathering clause, the value should have been “true” for these transactions. The NCR is classified minor because it doesn’t affect all the transactions, and the feedstock is post-consumer feedstock where sustainability requirements are identical between RED II and RED III.	
Timeline for Conformance:	By the next surveillance audit, but no later than 12 months from report finalisation date
Evidence Provided by Company to close NC:	N/A
Findings for Evaluation of Evidence:	N/A
NC Status:	Open

2.2 Closed non-conformities

2.3 Actions taken by Organisation Prior to Report Finalisation

None.

2.4 Notes for the next Audit

None.

3 Scope of the audit and SBP certificate

Scope item	Check all that apply to the Certificate scope
Primary activity	End User
Secondary activity	Trader
Approved Standards	SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody v2.0; SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data v2.0; SBP Standard 6: Energy and Carbon Balance Calculation v2.0; Instruction Document REDII: Bridging requirements of the SBP scheme for meeting REDII. v1.2; Instruction Document 5E: Collection and Communication of Energy and Carbon data. v2.1; Instruction Document 6D: Methodology for the Calculation and Certification of GHG Emissions Savings for EU RED v2.0
Product Group IDs	☐ Forest feedstock (1A) ☐ Trees outside forest (TOF) - Urban and landscape feedstock (2A) ☐ Trees outside forest (TOF) - Agricultural land feedstock (3A) ☐ Processing residues feedstock (4A) ☒ Post-consumer feedstock (5A) ☐ Other (please specify)
SBP Feedstock types	☐ SBP Compliant; ☒ SBP Controlled
Includes Supply Base Evaluation (SBE)	No
Includes EU RED Scheme	Yes
Includes EU RED Supply Base Evaluation (SBE)	No
Products	WB 2.1 Wood chips
Feedstock origin (countries):	France
SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used: **Public link:** **https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/**	Not applicable
Chain of custody system	☐ Physical separation ☒ Mass balance
Outsourcing	No
Changes in the scope	France has EU REDII grand fathering clause, which the Organisation uses.

3.1 Description of the company

Guidance: Please describe the type, structure and operations of the company including its role in the supply chain, its inputs and outputs as they related to SBP Standards.

Green Valley Energie is a biomass cogeneration plant just commissionned located in Golbey in the Vosges, with a capacity of 25 MW of electricity and 100 MW of thermal power. This plant use around 250,000 tonnes/year of recycled wood (class B wood under the French classification), collected in the France, as 20,000 tonnes/year of residues from Norske Skog Golbey's industrial process, which also consume most of the renewable thermal energy produced. Green Valley Energie produce 200 GWh of annual electricity and more than 700 GWh of renewable heat, generating CO_2 savings of 210,000 tonnes per year and electricity production corresponding to the consumption of more than 13,000 households.

3.2 Site details

Legal entity name	Address	Site Activity	Visited during the audit
Green Valley Energy	Route Jean-Charles Pellerin, Zone Industrielle III, 88190 Golbey, France	Energy producer	☒

3.3 Detailed description of the Chain of Custody system and Product Groups

Guidance: Please describe the operation of the CoC system including details of the mass balance management and a list of established Product Groups.

Incoming material is systematically recorded in the system, with certified material specifically ordered as such, and suppliers declaring the certified status on their invoices. In accordance with the established procedures for EU REDII biomass communication, including the mass balance system, the organisation considers only tertiary feedstock as REDII-compliant. The mass balance system operates is defined over a fixed 3-month period for all material categories (post-consumer material only).

4 Specific objective of the audit

The specific objective of this evaluation was to confirm that the Organisation'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 this evaluation did not include a Supply Base Evaluation.

The scope of the evaluation covered:

- Review of the Organisations management procedures, including requirements designated in applicable SBP Standards and Instruction Documents;
- Review of SBP system control points, analysis of the existing PEFC CoC system;
- Review of the records, calculations and mass balance system;
- Review of implementation and management of RED requirements;
- GHG data collection analysis;
- Interviews with responsible staff.

5 Evaluation process

5.1 Timing and duration of evaluation activities

Audit Level of Effort (LoE)		
Activity	**Auditors**	**Auditor hours**
1. Preparation	Francois Gambier, Pierre Fauré	4.0
2. On-site (excl. travel time)	Francois Gambier, Pierre Fauré	8.0
3. Report writing	Francois Gambier, Pierre Fauré	8.0

5.2 Auditor team qualification

Auditor qualification		
Auditor name	**Role**	**Qualification**
Francois Gambier	Lead auditor	François holds a Master's degree in wood engineering from ENSTIB (France) and a PhD in wood and fibre sciences from the Université de Lorraine (France). He is a qualified auditor for FSC CoC and PEFC CoC certifications since 2022, SBP auditor since 2023, PEFC RED since 2025. He is Supply Chain Specialist at Preferred by Nature since 2023.
Pierre Fauré	Auditor in training	Pierre holds an engineer's certificate in agronomy, he is also APICS CPIM certified (Supply Chain specialist), and passed a specialisation (master) in Forestry. He is a qualified auditor for FSC CoC and PEFC CoC.

5.3 Description of evaluation activities

The first annual audit was conducted on-site on May 6th 2026, with the auditor in training attending the audit remotely.
The audit consisted of an opening meeting, during which the scope was confirmed. The auditors explained the methods to be employed during the audit. During the audit, all relevant requirements of the applicable SBP standards were verified on compliance through the use of a report template and checklists, as well as interviews with the below mention individuals were made.
A site tour of the End user facility was done to confirm practices through direct observations.

The audit was completed by filling in the audit checklist and discussing the audit results.
At the end of the audit, findings were summarised, and preliminary conclusions, based on a three-angle evaluation method, were presented to the Organisation during the closing meeting, including the NCR and Observation raised during the audit.

5.4 List of forest management units and feedstock suppliers visited

☒ N/A – No forest sites or suppliers visited during this evaluation
The Organisation is an end user and trader, supplying only post-consumer reclaimed feedstock with SBP-Controlled and RED-Compliant claims.

5.5 Describe audit sampling methodology used

A sampling has been implemented, based on the following criteria: • Review of procedures; • Review of training records; • Review of information related to suppliers; • Review of delivery documentation and cross-check with DTS; • Interviews with staff to evaluate theoretical and practical experience of intended approaches implementation. The focus was on key responsible staff.

5.6 CB stakeholder engagement

☒ N/A – Certification Body stakeholder consultation not applicable for this evaluation

Guidance: Please specify the number and types of stakeholders engaged, method of engagement and its outcomes.

5.7 Stakeholder feedback and response

☒ N/A – Certification Body stakeholder consultation not applicable for this evaluation

5.8 Main strengths and weaknesses of the management system and operations

Strength: The Organisation has only one supplier, which is the neighbour company GV Bois. The Organisation is part of Pearl Bioenergy and benefits of its broader management system.

For weaknesses, see non-conformity.

5.9 Summary of evaluation activities for robustness of the Supply Base Evaluation

☒ N/A – Standard 1 not in the scope of the evaluation

5.10 Summary of evaluation activities for Processing residues and/or Post-consumer feedstock requirements per Standard 2 and EU RED

☒ N/A – processing residues and/or post-consumer feedstock not used.

5.11 Summary of evaluation activities for chain of custody system per Standard 4

Traceability procedures and documentation were reviewed, following a sampling by the auditor.

5.12 Summary of evaluation activities for collection and communication of data per Standard 5

The End User collects information on energy and carbon from its supplier via DTS and internal database (MIIA). These records include information on types of biomass, energy and carbon in delivery records and other relevant data. The data is used to determine the option for the GHG criterion for biomass fuels and the methods of communication of savings. This was reviewed during the audit.

5.13 Summary of audit findings for competency of involved personnel

A few management persons shares responsibilities for maintaining the management system, ensuring good traceability and data communication. During the audit, the staff showed good knowledge of applicable requirements and effective management of the areas of responsibility was demonstrated, The End User uses the support of an umbrella company (Pearl Bioénergie) and the only supplier - GV Bois.

5.14 Summary of audit findings for GHG methodology per Standard 6 (if applicable)

The Organisation decides to use default values for GHG emission savings (a). The level of saving may vary depending on the feedstock types used by the biomass producers upstream the supply chain. The Organization demonstrated and explained the decision-making system to determine the savings values using Annex VI of the REDII.

6 Detailed evaluation of BP's Supply Base Evaluation (if applicable)

☒ N/A – Supply Base Evaluation not in the scope of the evaluation

6.1 Overview of BP's risk assessments and mitigation measures including EU RED scope

N/A

6.2 CB evaluation of specified risk indicators and mitigation measures