Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

SCS Global Services
Evaluation of Archer Forest Products LLC

Scope Change 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

© Copyright Sustainable Biomass Program Limited 2025

Table of contents

1 Overview **3**

2 Audit conclusions **4**

2.1 Certification decision 4
2.2 Open non-conformities and observations 4
2.2 Closed non-conformities 5
2.3 Actions taken by Organisation Prior to Report Finalisation 5
2.4 Notes for the next Audit 5

3 Scope of the audit and SBP certificate **6**

3.1 Description of the company 7
3.2 Site details 7
3.3 Detailed description of the Chain of Custody system and Product Groups 7

4 Specific objective of the audit **8**

5 Evaluation process **9**

5.1 Timing and duration of evaluation activities 9
5.2 Auditor team qualification 9
5.3 Description of evaluation activities 9
5.4 List of forest management units and feedstock suppliers visited 10
5.5 Describe audit sampling methodology used 10
5.6 CB stakeholder engagement 10
5.7 Stakeholder feedback and response 10
5.8 Main strengths and weaknesses of the management system and operations 10
5.9 Summary of evaluation activities for robustness of the Supply Base Evaluation 10
5.10 Summary of evaluation activities for Processing residues and/or Post-consumer feedstock requirements per Standard 2 and EU RED 11
5.11 Summary of evaluation activities for chain of custody system per Standard 4 11
5.12 Summary of evaluation activities for collection and communication of data per Standard 5 11
5.13 Summary of audit findings for competency of involved personnel 11
5.14 Summary of audit findings for GHG methodology per Standard 6 (if applicable) 11

6 Detailed evaluation of BP's Supply Base Evaluation (if applicable) **12**

6.1 Overview of BP's risk assessments and mitigation measures including EU RED scope 12
6.2 CB evaluation of specified risk indicators and mitigation measures 12

1 Overview

Certification Body (CB) Name:	SCS Global Services
Primary CB contact for SBP:	Maggie Schwartz
Primary CB contact email:	mschwartz@scsglobalservices.com
Audit team leader:	Kyle Meister
Audit team members:	Kyle Meister
Name of the Company:	Archer Forest Products LLC
Company legal address:	15333 Hwy 82, 31553 Nahunta, United States
Company contact for SBP:	Randy Stevenson
Company contact email:	stevenson@framfuels.com
Company website:	www.framfuels.com
Date of installation:	
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-04-39
Date of certificate issue:	22 Mar 2024
Date of certificate expiry:	21 Mar 2029
Audit closing meeting date:	03 Sep 2026
Audit cycle:	Scope Change 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):	Jose del Castillo
Date of decision:	29 Sep 2026
Other comments:	N/A

2.2 Open non-conformities and observations

2.2 Closed non-conformities

2.3 Actions taken by Organisation Prior to Report Finalisation

The organization was not assigned any findings in the scope change audit.

2.4 Notes for the next Audit

N/A

3 Scope of the audit and SBP certificate

Scope item	Check all that apply to the Certificate scope
Primary activity	Biomass Producer
Secondary activity	Trader
Approved Standards	SBP Standard 1: Feedstock Compliance v2.0; SBP Standard 2: Feedstock Verification v2.0; SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody v2.0; SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data v2.0; Instruction Document 5E: Collection and Communication of Energy and Carbon data. v2.1; Instruction Document EU RED: Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413
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)	Yes
Products	WB 1.1 Wood pellets
Feedstock origin (countries):	United States
SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used: **Public link:** https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/	SBP-RRA-US-NF-FOR_v1.0 RRA for US National FOR_Interim, SBP-RRA-US-PF-FOR_v1.0 RRA for US Private FOR_Interim
Chain of custody system	☐ Physical separation ☒ Mass balance
Outsourcing	Yes
Changes in the scope	Addition of trader function to scope of certificate.

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.

Fram Renewable Fuels, LLC operates five wood pellet mills in Southeast Georgia, USA, each with their own SBP certificate: Appling County Pellets, LLC (Baxley GA), Hazlehurst Wood Pellets, LLC (Hazlehurst, GA), Telfair Forest Products, LLC (Lumber City, GA), Ideal Pellets, LLC (Oglethorpe, GA), and Archer Forest Products, LLC (Nahunta, GA). All mills receive a combination of secondary mill residuals (e.g., green sawdust, chips) and pre-consumer tertiary residuals (e.g., dry sawdust and dry chips from milling of secondary products) from local forest product mills (e.g., sawmills, engineered forest product mills, pulp, etc.). Hazlehurst Wood Pellets (HWP) also receives primary material in the form of roundwood and in-woods chips. Appling County Pellets and Archer Forest Products receive primary material as in-woods chips. Since the company has completed a Supply Base Evaluation, all output pellets are considered SBP-compliant.

3.2 Site details

Legal entity name	Address	Site Activity	Visited during the audit
Archer Forest Products	15333 Highway 82, Nahunta, GA 31553	Pellet mill and trader	☐

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.

As applicable, all material is subject to the organization's COC procedures for sourcing certified and noncertified material. The organization sources material from certified sources under its valid COC certificate(s) per the following systems: ☒ FSC ☒ PEFC and/or ☐ SFI. As applicable, any non-certified sources have been evaluated under the BP's COC Due Diligence System (DDS) or Controlled Wood procedures, as well duly approved Regional Risk Assessment(s).

4 Specific objective of the audit

The specific objective of this evaluation was to confirm that the organization's management system is capable of ensuring that all requirements of specified SBP Standards are implemented over scope of certification, specifically for adding trading to the scope of this certificate.

5 Evaluation process

5.1 Timing and duration of evaluation activities

Audit Level of Effort (LoE)		
Activity	**Auditors**	**Auditor hours**
1. Preparation	Kyle Meister	6.0
2. On-site (excl. travel time)	Kyle Meister	4.0
3. Report writing	Kyle Meister	4.0
4. Other	Kyle Meister	6.0

5.2 Auditor team qualification

Auditor qualification		
Auditor name	**Role**	**Qualification**
Kyle Meister	Lead Auditor	Lead SBP Auditor, Lead FSC and PEFC COC Auditor, Lead FSC and SFI-FM/FS Auditor, Lead ATFS Auditor.

5.3 Description of evaluation activities

Audit schedule: ST 4/EU RED and 5 (trader)	
Activity	Notes
Opening meeting (incl. review of previous non-conformities)	Introductions, auditor review of audit scope, audit plan and intro/update to SBP and SCS standards and protocols, client description of organization
Review of trademarks	SBP TMLA and trademarks
Review of procedures	Written procedures, work instructions, feedstock description, accounting system (transfer, percentage or credit; physical separation, percentage method)
ST 4: Business integrity, social, health & safety	Overlaps with general COC requirements
ST 4: review of inputs, outputs, traceability, training, etc.	Auditor-selected sample of the following: material tracking system, summary of purchases and sales, invoices, shipping documents, training records, outsourcing agreements, other applicable SBP systems, tracebacks from certified outputs to eligible inputs, verification of calculations for conversion factors, percentage claims, and credit accounts, as applicable

	Review of sampled primary, secondary, and tertiary supplier records.
ST 5: Review of SAR and GHG data collection/ calculations	Review of GHG data, record-keeping, calculations, etc.
Interviews with staff	Training, OSH, responsibilities, etc.
Closing meeting preparation	Auditor takes time to consolidate notes and review audit findings for presentation at closing meeting
Closing meeting	Convene with all relevant staff to summarize audit findings, review identified nonconformities, and discuss next steps

5.4 List of forest management units and feedstock suppliers visited

☒ N/A – No forest sites or suppliers visited during this evaluation
N/A - trader function added to scope of certificate.

5.5 Describe audit sampling methodology used

The organization has prepared one transaction for review in DTS, which the audit team reviewed and found to be satisfactory.

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

Strengths: GHG data collection systems remain strong. The BP has conducted regular inspections of the pellet mill to confirm that identified emissions control points remain accurate.
Weaknesses: Refer to any nonconformities issued.

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

The organization maintains a list of suppliers which include relevant information such as name and address, type of supplier, category of feedstock supplied, and a supplier self declaration. The organization conducts supplier audits and visually inspects the feedstock upon delivery to the mill. Trip tickets are used by the suppliers to gain access to bring feedstock to the mill which ensures that the feedstock meets the SBP standard requirements

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

The organization has prepared one transaction for review in DTS, which the audit team reviewed and found to be satisfactory. Procedures have been updated to incorporate trading activities and staff training on trading functions has occurred.

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

The organization has a comprehensive set of records in which all Standard 5 data is compiled and maintained. All compilation and calculations are conducted by organization's staff through use of IT platforms, logbooks, and/or spreadsheets. The organization has procedures for ST 5.

5.13 Summary of audit findings for competency of involved personnel

The SBE was completed by the organization's staff who have local forestry experience and knowledge of ecological and social values associated with the supply base, applicable laws and regulations, business management practices, operation of suppliers, and the local forest resource. The organization's management and control systems for SBP are similar to those used to meet other Chain of Custody requirements. Key personnel tasked with implementing the management and control systems relating to SBP compliance are well trained and competent, with strengths in accounting, markets, silviculture, management, harvesting, and conservation issues. Staff at production facilities are knowledgeable in data collection systems.

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

☒ N/A – Standard 6 not in the scope

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