Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

SCS Global Services Evaluation of MLA SIA

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

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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:	Erlends Blekus
Audit team members:	-
Name of the Company:	MLA SIA
Company legal address:	Maldugunu 10-33, LV-2167 Marupe, Latvia
Company contact for SBP:	Martins Vitkovskis
Company contact email:	martins.vitkovskis@mla.lv
Company website:	www.mla.lv
Date of installation:	
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-12-22
Date of certificate issue:	12 Jun 2026
Date of certificate expiry:	11 Jun 2031
Audit closing meeting date:	11 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):	Kresimir Colic
Date of decision:	28 Sep 2026
Other comments:	N/A

2.2 Open non-conformities and observations

NC number 9753	NC Grading: Observation
Standard:	SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody v2.0
Requirement:	1.23 The Organisation shall implement effective Occupational Health And Safety (OHAS) measures, including at minimum: – an OHAS responsible person (representative), – OHAS procedures and processes which are appropriate to the complexity and operations of the Organisation, and – training of staff. N/A N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
Internal work and safety procedures, and other documentation, are not finalized. Since the organization has signed contract with competent institution FN Serviss for the establishement of system, the finding was graded as OBS.	
Timeline for Conformance:	N/A
Evidence Provided by Company to close NC:	N/A
Findings for Evaluation of Evidence:	N/A
NC Status:	Open
Original Due Date:	N/A
Closing Date:	N/A
Upgrade Date:	N/A
Update Date:	N/A

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	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 EU RED: Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413; Instruction Document 5E: Collection and Communication of Energy and Carbon data. v2.1
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)	Yes
Includes EU RED Scheme	Yes
Includes EU RED Supply Base Evaluation (SBE)	Yes
Products	WB 2.1 Wood chips, WB 4.1 Roundwood, WB 1.1 Wood pellets
Feedstock origin (countries):	Latvia
SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used: **Public link:** https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/	SBP-RRA-EU-LV-FOR_v2.0 RRA for Latvia FOR_Endorsed
Chain of custody system	☐ Physical separation ☒ Mass balance
Outsourcing	Yes
Changes in the scope	With this change of scope audit added SBP certified pellet trading to the certificate scope.

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.

MLA SIA is a family-owned business specializing in the supply of roundwood and biofuels for the energy and paper producers, as well as sawmills and other wood processing companies. The organization plans to source wood chips (primary and secondary) and roundwood. Potentially could outsource wood chipping. With this change of scope audit added SBP certified pellet trading to the certificate scope.

3.2 Site details

Legal entity name	Address	Site Activity	Visited during the audit
MLA SIA	Maldugunu iela 10 - 33, Mārupe, Mārupes nov., LV-2167, Latvia	Office	☒
MLA SIA	Brīvostas iela 22, Liepāja, LV-3405, Latvia	Liepāja warehouse	☐
MLA SIA	Rūpniecības iela 25, Ventspils, LV-3601, Latvia	Ventspils warehouse	☐
MLA SIA	Lielā iela 64B, Mērsrags, Mērsraga pagasts, Talsu novads, LV-3284, Latvia	Mērsrags warehouse	☐

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.

Separate Mass Balance accounts maintained for each warehouse. For the initial audit prepared Mass Balance account form, this form will be implemented for each warehouse. Separate accounts for each biomass type - Primary (forest) wood chips (1.1), roundwood forest (1.2), TOF wood chips (2.1), TOF roundwood (2.2), Processing residues (4.0). With this change of scope audit added SBP certified pellet trading to the certificate scope. Pellets will be sourced from the local producers. Pellets primarily are planned to be traded without physical possession – purchased as loaded vessels on incoterms FOB conditions. In that case Mass Balance will not be used – purchase and sales will be directly linked and traceable. The established system also includes the option to store pellets at the port warehouse, in that case the volume will be accounted through separate Mass Balance sheet. No pellet transactions had taken place at the time of the scope extension audit.

4 Specific objective of the audit

The objective of this scope change audit was to evaluate the organisation's request to add the trading of SBP certified wood pellets to its certificate scope. The evaluation covered the applicable SBP Standards 4 chain-of-custody requirements, SBP Standard 5 data collection and communication requirements, and Instruction Document 5E requirements for retaining the originating producer's product identifiers and communicating any additional energy and carbon data through the SREG. The organisation's existing wood-chip activities and associated supply-base arrangements were outside the requested change and were not re-evaluated during this audit.

5 Evaluation process

5.1 Timing and duration of evaluation activities

Audit Level of Effort (LoE)		
Activity	**Auditors**	**Auditor hours**
1. Preparation	Erlends Blekus	2.0
2. On-site (excl. travel time)	Erlends Blekus	6.0
3. Report writing	Erlends Blekus	5.0

5.2 Auditor team qualification

Auditor qualification		
Auditor name	**Role**	**Qualification**
Erlends Blekus	Lead auditor	Bachelor's degree in Forest Science and Engineer of Forestry – studied in Latvia University of Agriculture. Worked in forestry sector and forestry-related industries since 2016. FSC CoC and FM lead auditor, PEFC CoC and SBP lead auditor.

5.3 Description of evaluation activities

Reviewed the implementation of pellet trading in internal procedures and management system. Interviewed the involved persons, reviewed DTS records for the input feedstock as examples of DTS use.

5.4 List of forest management units and feedstock suppliers visited

☒ N/A – No forest sites or suppliers visited during this evaluation
Change of scope audit to add pellet trading.

5.5 Describe audit sampling methodology used

During the change of scope audit, the involved persons were interviewed, checked all procedures, and established accoutning system (material accounting and mass balance), reviewed records of received SBP-compliant feedstock to evaluate the competence regarding DTS use.

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

Implemented a documented management system according to the SBP requirements, traceability requirements integrated into the accounting system, record-keeping system defined according to the SBP requirements. No non-conformities identified during the audit.

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

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

All feedstock sourced from Latvia covered by RRA (developed by expert group and approved by SBP), implemented rigour system for origin documentation and confirmation of low risk for biomass that is accepted as SBP-compliant. CoC consultant was engaged for the development of the system.

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.
Established an internal audit program, supplier agreement form. Conducted one secondary supplier audit as an example for the initial audit.

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

No non-conformities identified. Established documentation and management system for biomass traceability according to the SBP requirements.

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

All relevant data to calculate energy consumption - delivery distances, fuel consumption, etc. will be determined for each shipment of biomass. Initial SAR data is based on the average data values in the sector. For further sales of SBP certified pellets the organization will add the necessary GHG data by completing SREG in DTS.

5.13 Summary of audit findings for competency of involved personnel

The overall responsible person has a university degree in business management, has been involved in CoC certification previously. Maintains PEFC CoC certification for the company.

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

SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessment for Latvia (developed by expert group and approved by SBP) used by the Biomass Producer. In the RRA specified risk has been designated to 4 indicators - 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3 and 3.2.3. Organization collect relevant information on feedstock origin and Implemented risk mitigation measures considering means of verification provided in RRA and FSC CNRA - use of relevant data bases un conduct field visits to avoid material from HCV areas.

6.2 CB evaluation of specified risk indicators and mitigation measures

Country
Latvia
Area/Sub-Scope
N/A
Indicator
2.1.1 Key species, habitats, ecosystems, and areas of high conservation value (HCV) pertaining to biodiversity in the Supply Base shall be identified.
Specified risk description
There is a risk that areas with protected species are not yet protected by law, so cutting licenses may be legally obtained for felling operations. Also there can be found new protected bird species nests, that is not recognized and registered in data base "OZOLS". There is a risk that the favorable environment at the sites of protected birds will be disturbed and destroyed by logging actions.
Detailed description of a mitigation measure
Identification of protected animal or plant habitat is carried out by using data base "OZOLS" and with field audits using "High Value Element Identification checklist". If large nests (>50 cm), large trees (>80 cm), or other values are identified, then experts shall be engaged for final conclusion.
Detailed description of CB evaluation of mitigation measure and its conclusions
Initial audit. The organization has not sourced biomass yet. Reviewed procedures, access to databases, and interviewed involved persons. No non-conformities identified.

Country
Latvia
Area/Sub-Scope
N/A
Indicator
2.1.2 Threats to and impacts on the identified key species, habitats, ecosystems, and areas of high conservation value (HCV) pertaining to biodiversity in the Supply Base shall be identified and

evaluated.

Specified risk description

There is a risk that areas with protected species are not yet protected by law, so cutting licenses may be legally obtained for felling operations. Also there can be found new protected bird species nests, that is not recognized and registered in data base "OZOLS". There is a risk that the favourable environment at the sites of protected birds will be disturbed and destroyed by logging actions.

Detailed description of a mitigation measure

Identification of protected animal or plant habitat is carried out by using data base “OZOLS” and with field audits using “High Value Element Identification checklist”.

Detailed description of CB evaluation of mitigation measure and its conclusions

Initial audit. The organization has not sourced biomass yet. Reviewed procedures, access to databases, and interviewed involved persons. No non-conformities identified.

Country

Latvia

Area/Sub-Scope

N/A

Indicator

2.1.3 Key species, habitats, ecosystems, and areas of high conservation value (HCV) pertaining to biodiversity in the Supply Base shall be maintained or enhanced.

Specified risk description

There is a risk that areas with high conservation biotopes, protected species are not yet protected by law, so cutting licenses may be legally obtained for felling operations. Also there can be found new protected bird species nests, that is not recognized and registered in data base "OZOLS". There is a risk that the favorable environment at the sites of protected birds will be disturbed and destroyed by logging actions.

Detailed description of a mitigation measure

Identification of high conservation biotopes, protected animal or plant habitat is carried out by using data base “OZOLS” and with field audits using “High Value Element Identification checklist”.

Detailed description of CB evaluation of mitigation measure and its conclusions

Initial audit. The organization has not sourced biomass yet. Reviewed procedures, access to databases, and interviewed involved persons. No non-conformities identified.

Country

Latvia

Area/Sub-Scope

N/A

Indicator
3.2.3 feedstock shall not be sourced from forest areas in the Supply Base which, according to local definitions or norms, are classified as having combined attributes of high carbon stocks and high conservation value (HCV).
Specified risk description
There are HCV areas and habitats of EU importance and EU-protected habitats that are outside protected areas particularly in privately owned forests and simultaneously are considered high carbon stock forests e.g. Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods and bog woodlands. There are no legal restrictions for harvesting and cutting permits are issued for these sites. In addition, not all bird nesting areas are identified.
Detailed description of a mitigation measure
Identification of protected animal or plant habitat is carried out by using data base “OZOLS” and with field audits using “High Value Element Identification checklist”.
Detailed description of CB evaluation of mitigation measure and its conclusions
Initial audit. The organization has not sourced biomass yet. Reviewed procedures, access to databases, and interviewed involved persons. No non-conformities identified.