



Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

**SCS Global Services
Evaluation of Drax Biomass Inc. - Monroe
Second 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

© 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	6
2.3 Actions taken by Organisation Prior to Report Finalisation	6
2.4 Notes for the next Audit	6
3 Scope of the audit and SBP certificate	7
3.1 Description of the company	8
3.2 Site details	8
3.3 Detailed description of the Chain of Custody system and Product Groups	8
4 Specific objective of the audit	9
5 Evaluation process	10
5.1 Timing and duration of evaluation activities	10
5.2 Auditor team qualification	10
5.3 Description of evaluation activities	10
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	11
5.7 Stakeholder feedback and response	11
5.8 Main strengths and weaknesses of the management system and operations	11
5.9 Summary of evaluation activities for robustness of the Supply Base Evaluation	11
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	12
5.14 Summary of audit findings for GHG methodology per Standard 6 (if applicable)	12
6 Detailed evaluation of BP's Supply Base Evaluation (if applicable)	13
6.1 Overview of BP's risk assessments and mitigation measures including EU RED scope	13
6.2 CB evaluation of specified risk indicators and mitigation measures	13

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:	Jose Del Castillo
Audit team members:	ERROR: Works only for SBR or PSR form. Please alter the function by adding more tables, or by dynamic sql
Name of the Company:	Drax Biomass Inc. - Monroe
Company legal address:	1434 Pete Riviere Drive, 70767 Baton Rouge, United States
Company contact for SBP:	Kyla Cheynet
Company contact email:	kyla.cheynet@draxbiomass.com
Company website:	http://www.draxbiomass.com/
Date of installation:	
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-04-37
Date of certificate issue:	21 Feb 2024
Date of certificate expiry:	20 Feb 2029
Audit closing meeting date:	05 Jun 2026
Audit cycle:	Second 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):	David Mijoc
Date of decision:	04 Sep 2026
Other comments:	No comments.

2.2 Open non-conformities and observations

NC number 9260	NC Grading: Minor
Standard:	Instruction Document EU RED: Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413 v2.0
Requirement:	3.3.9 The organisation shall define a fixed balancing period. For Biomass Producers using only primary feedstock (forest feedstock and TOF feedstock) the fixed balancing period shall be 12 months ²⁴ . For Biomass Producers using secondary and tertiary feedstock the fixed balancing period shall be 3 months. For Biomass Traders the fixed balancing period shall be 3 months. By the end of the balancing period, the account shall always be positive. If negative credits occur at the end of a mass balance period, the certified company must (proactively) inform the certification body immediately (and without being requested). N/A N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
Per review of each pellet mill's MB account, the fixed balance period is one month, and the physical stock verification is based on a rolling 3-month balance period to avoid negative balances. While inputs comply with EU RED, reconciliation occurs monthly, and the balance has gone negative one time for La Salle only, EU RED 3.3.9 requires a 3-month fixed balancing period	
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

NC number 9261	NC Grading: Minor
Standard:	Instruction Document EU RED: Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413 v2.0
Requirement:	3.3.10 The start and end of the period shall be aligned with the calendar year or, where applicable, the four quarters of the calendar year. As an alternative to the calendar

	year, economic operators may also use the economic year that they use for bookkeeping purposes, provided that the choice is clearly indicated and applied consistently. N/A N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
Per review of each pellet mill's MB account, the fixed balance period is one month, and the physical stock verification is based on a rolling 3-month balance period to avoid negative balances. While inputs comply with EU RED, reconciliation occurs monthly, and the balance has gone negative one time for La Salle only, the start and end period of the MB account must be aligned with the calendar, fiscal or other 12-month period as defined by the organization. Each fixed balancing period must be every three months within the 12-month period.	
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

NC number 9262	NC Grading: Minor
Standard:	Instruction Document EU RED: Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413 v2.0
Requirement:	3.3.11 A positive balance may be carried over in the account (into the next fixed balancing period) up to the total corresponding amount of physical material that is in stock in the container, processing or logistical facility, transmission and distribution infrastructure or site at the end of the previous balancing period. The Figure 4 below is provided as an illustrative example. N/A N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
Per review of each pellet mill's MB account, the fixed balance period is one month, and the physical stock verification is based on a rolling 3-month balance period to avoid negative balances. The positive balance is therefore based on a one-month fixed period rather than a 3-month fixed period	
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	Trader
Secondary activity	
Approved Standards	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 v2.0; 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)	No
Includes EU RED Scheme	Yes
Includes EU RED Supply Base Evaluation (SBE)	No
Products	WB 1.1 Wood pellets
Feedstock origin (countries):	United States
SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used:	Not applicable
Public link: https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/	
Chain of custody system	☐ Physical separation ☒ Mass balance
Outsourcing	No
Changes in the scope	None

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.

The organization operates as a wood pellet trading entity within DRAX's operations in the United States. The company receives wood pellets from approved manufacturing facilities and one external supplier for storage, handling, and onward sale to customers. The organization has implemented documented procedures to ensure product traceability, supplier approval, receiving verification, inventory control, and compliance with applicable SBP requirements. All policies, procedures, and ERP systems are aligned with those used across the broader DRAX organization, ensuring consistent management and control of certified material throughout the supply chain. In addition to supporting the regional biomass and forest products sector, the organization contributes to the local economy through employment opportunities and support for local communities, skills development, and responsible environmental stewardship.

3.2 Site details

Legal entity name	Address	Site Activity	Visited during the audit
Drax Biomass Inc.	1500 N. 19th Street, Suite 501 Monroe, Louisiana 71201	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.

Traceability is maintained through the company's ERP system, which assigns a unique identification number to each transaction. The transaction number is linked to the corresponding DTS transaction, allowing biomass received and sold with an SBP claim to be traced through the supply chain. The facilities receive and process only SBP-compliant feedstock, including primary feedstock and processing residues, and produce SBP-compliant pellets. During the audit, a sample of supplier agreements, load tickets, purchasing records, inventory records, and ERP system data was reviewed. These records demonstrated that all feedstock originated from approved suppliers within the Supply Base and was appropriately classified and tracked throughout the production process. • The feedstock descriptions: Roundwood (1A), Green Sawdust (4A), Green Chips and Particles (4A), Wood residues (4A), Dry Shavings (4A), Wet Shavings (4A), ToF Urban Landscape (2A). TOF feedstock was added to the certificate scope during this audit. No TOF feedstock was received during the evaluation period. • The input categories: SBP-compliant primary feedstock, SBP-compliant secondary feedstock, SBP-compliant biomass, SBP-controlled biomass, RED Eligible. • The control system: Mass Balance • The output product type: Pellets • The output categories: SBP-compliant, SBP-controlled, and RED Compliant

4 Specific objective of the audit

The objective of the audit was to evaluate the organization's conformity with the applicable SBP normative requirements and to determine whether its management system has been effectively implemented and maintained to support continued certification.

5 Evaluation process

5.1 Timing and duration of evaluation activities

Audit Level of Effort (LoE)		
Activity	Auditors	Auditor hours
1. Preparation	Jose del Castillo	4.0
2. On-site (excl. travel time)	Jose del Castillo	4.0
3. Report writing	Jose del Castillo	4.0

5.2 Auditor team qualification

Auditor qualification		
Auditor name	Role	Qualification
Jose del Castillo	Lead auditor	Forester with 10 years of experience in forest management and the lumber industry, specializing in certification for over five years. As a qualified lead auditor, the auditor holds credentials in ISO 9001:2015, FSC Chain of Custody (COC), FSC Forest Management (FM), PEFC, Sustainable Biomass Program (SBP), RSPO, 4C, and Fair-Trade USA. Auditor's expertise spans auditing, compliance, and quality assurance, ensuring organizations meet rigorous industry standards and best practices

5.3 Description of evaluation activities

The evaluation included a review of documented procedures, policies, records, and reports from May 25 to May 29, 2026, to assess conformity with the applicable requirements of SBP Standards 4 and 5. The on-site evaluation was conducted during the week of June 1, 2026, and included visits to the trading and storage facilities, as well as interviews with management and personnel responsible for implementing the SBP management system. The evaluation included verification of material receiving and dispatch processes, traceability, Chain of Custody, mass balance, SBP Data Transfer System (DTS) transactions, data collection and reporting processes, and supporting records to confirm the effective implementation of the organization's management system.

5.4 List of forest management units and feedstock suppliers visited

- ☒ N/A – No forest sites or suppliers visited during this evaluation
The certificate holder is a trader and does not purchase primary feedstock.

5.5 Describe audit sampling methodology used

The certificate holder is a trader.

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

The organization has implemented a robust management system supported by well-developed procedures that are effectively integrated into its operations. Personnel demonstrated a strong understanding of the applicable SBP requirements and their responsibilities through interviews and review of records. A comprehensive training program is in place to ensure personnel maintain the necessary competence. The organization has also established effective controls for supplier approval, feedstock verification, traceability, risk management, and monitoring activities. Overall, the documented procedures, supporting records, and observations made during the audit demonstrate a well-managed system that supports continued compliance with the applicable SBP requirements.

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

The evaluation of the Chain of Custody system included a review of documented procedures, records, and supporting documentation to verify the implementation of the organization's traceability and material control processes. The audit included verification of feedstock receiving records, production records, inventory controls, sales documentation, SBP Data Transfer System (DTS) transactions, and product claims. Mass balance records and accounting reports were reviewed to verify the accurate reconciliation of material inputs and outputs, maintenance of positive balances, and the correct application of SBP claims. Interviews with relevant personnel and observations during the site visit confirmed the effective implementation of the Chain of Custody system in accordance with the applicable requirements of SBP Standard 4.

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

The certificate holder is a trader.

5.13 Summary of audit findings for competency of involved personnel

The audit included a review of the applicable requirements of SBP Standards 4 and 5 through document review, interviews, record verification, field visits, and site observations. The evaluation covered the Chain of Custody system, material accounting, SBP claims, SARs, DTS transactions, and supporting records. Personnel involved in the implementation of the SBP management system demonstrated a high level of competence and a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. This was verified through interviews, review of training records, and observations during the site visit. The organization has established a comprehensive training program to ensure personnel maintain the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively implement and maintain the applicable SBP requirements.

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