



NEPCon OÜ Evaluation of TechnoArs LLC Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

Third Surveillance Audit

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The promise of good biomass



Completed in accordance with the CB Public Summary Report Template Version 1.5

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:	NEPCon OÜ
Primary CB contact for SBP:	Ondrej Tarabus
Primary CB contact email:	otarabus@preferredbynature.org
Audit team leader:	Nikolai Tochilov
Audit team members:	-
Name of the Company:	TechnoArs LLC
Company legal address:	Sovetskaya str., 114, 171720 Veswegonsk, Tver region, Russia
Company contact for SBP:	Olga Kondratyeva
Company contact email:	oolaguna@inbox.ru
Company website:	N/A
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-01-83
Date of certificate issue:	12 Apr 2019
Date of certificate expiry:	11 Apr 2024
Audit closing meeting date:	01 Apr 2022
Audit cycle:	Third Surveillance Audit

2 Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate

Scope Item	Check all that apply to the Certificate Scope	Change in scope (N/A for Assessments)
Primary Activity:	Biomass Producer	☐
Approved Standards:	SBP Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock; SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody; SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data Instruction	☐
Includes Supply Base Evaluation (SBE):	No	☐
Includes communication of Dynamic Batch Sustainability Data (DBSD)	Yes	☐
Includes Group Scheme	No	☐
Products	Pellets	☐

Feedstock types:	Secondary	☐
Feedstock origin (countries):	Russia	☐
SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used:	Not applicable	☐
Public link: https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/		☐
Chain of custody system implemented:	FSC: NC-COC-027784	☐
	Transfer	☐

2.1 Description of the company

BP is a secondary manufacturer situated in the northern part of Tver region, Russia. The feedstock is a waste of lumber production, delivered from the primary processor located at the same production site. The feedstock is FSC 100% certified. Origin of the feedstock is Tver region of Russia. Total annual production capacity of pellet plant is 6000 tones.

2.2 Detailed description of the Chain of Custody system

BP holds valid FSC CoC certificate (NC-COC-027784). Incoming secondary feedstock originates from the sawmill located at the same production site, and operating with materials with FSC 100% claim. BP uses transfer system of FSC claims for certified pellet production and sales. Some roundwood for primary processing may be obtained by sawmill without FSC claim as non-certified, therefore some secondary feedstock may be delivered to BP as non-certified. Such feedstock is not used in certified biomass production, including dryer. BP will ensure physical segregation of certified and non-certified wood material at all stages. In the reporting period BP sourced only FSC 100%-certified secondary feedstock.

3 Specific objective

The specific objective of this evaluation was to confirm that the Biomass Producer'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 the evaluation covered:

- Review of the BP's management procedures;
- Review of the production processes, production site visit;
- Review of FSC system control points, analysis of the existing FSC CoC system;
- Interviews with responsible staff;
- Review of the records, calculations and conversion coefficients;
- GHG data collection analysis;
- Assess compliance against Instruction Document 5E.

4 Evaluation process

4.1 Timing of evaluation activities

<i>Audit Level of Effort (LoE)</i>		
Activity	Auditors	Auditor hours
1. Preparation	Nikolai Tochilov	1,0
2. On-site (excl. travel time)	Nikolai Tochilov	9,0
3. Report writing	Nikolai Tochilov	4,0
4. Other	N/A	N/A

<i>Audit Schedule</i>			
Activity	Location	Auditor name	Date/time
<i>Opening meeting</i>	Office in Veseyegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/10:00
<i>Review of the Supply Base</i>	Office in Veseyegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/10:20
<i>Review of the management and monitoring system</i>	Office in Veseyegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/11:00
<i>Review of the CoC critical control points</i>	Office in Veseyegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/11:30

<i>Onsite inspection of the pellet production</i>	Pellet plant in Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/12:00
<i>Break</i>	Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/13:00
<i>Tax payments, anticorruption policy, H&S</i>	Office in Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/14:00
<i>Energy use data review</i>	Office in Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/14:30
<i>End of the day</i>	Office in Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	31 Mar 2022/17:00
<i>Energy use data review</i>	Office in Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	01 Apr 2022/10:00
<i>Closing meeting</i>	Office in Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	01 Apr 2022/12:45
<i>End of evaluation</i>	Office in Vesjegonsk	Nikolai Tochilov	01 Apr 2022/13:00

Auditor qualification		
Auditor name	Role	Qualification
Nikolai Tochilov	Audit team leader	Preferred by Nature - NEPCon SBP lead auditor. He has successfully passed SBP auditor training in Tallinn in January 2015; previous experience with more than 60 SBP assessments and annual audits in Russia, Portugal, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Latvia, Belarus and Vietnam.

4.2 Description of evaluation activities

The audit visit was focused on management system evaluation: division of the responsibilities, document and system, input material classification (reception and registration), analysis of the existing FSC system and FSC system control points as well as the collection of the energy and emission data.

Description of the audit evaluation:

All SBP related documentation connected to the SBP as well as FSC system of the organisation, including SBP Procedures, GHG related data, Supply Base Reports, were evaluated during the audit.

Audit started with an opening meeting.

Auditor introduced himself, provided information about audit plan, methodology, auditor qualification, confidentiality issues, and assessment methodology and clarified verification scope. During the opening meeting the auditor explained CB's approval related issues.

After that auditor went through all applicable requirements of the SBP standards nr.2, 4, 5 and instruction documents 5e covering input clarification, existing chain of custody system, management system, CoC, recordkeeping/mass balance requirements, emission and energy data and categorisation of input and verification of SBP compliant feedstock/ biomass. During the process overall responsible person for SBP system and as well as other persons having key responsibilities within the system were interviewed. CoC Critical Control Points were reviewed by auditor specifically: identification of the material, purchase documentation, segregation, conversion factors, moisture measurements, mass balance, storage and sales.

After that roundtrip around BP's pellet production was undertaken. During the site tour reception process were observed, applicable records were reviewed, pellet factory staff was interviewed and FSC system critical control points were analysed.

At the end of the audit findings were summarised and audit conclusion based on use of 3 angle evaluation method were provided to the representatives of the company.

4.3 Sampling methodology

Staff interviews: all key staff involved in SBP certification was interviewed during the audit. Onsite inspection: during onsite inspection, auditor went through the whole production, starting with feedstock delivery and ending with the storage of the biomass and its shipping to customers. Documents review: auditor has verified all records related to feedstock input and biomass output; moisture measurements; electricity and fossil fuels consumption. Special attention was paid to justification of conversion factor for pellet production, established by Organisation annually.

4.4 CB stakeholder engagement

No stakeholder consultations conducted prior or during this annual audit.

4.5 Stakeholder feedback

No stakeholder comments received.

5 Results

5.1 Main strengths and weaknesses

Strengths: use of FSC transfer system. Robust recordkeeping system. Good awareness of certification requirements by involved staff.

Weaknesses: no weaknesses identified.

5.2 Rigour of Supply Base Evaluation

n/a

5.3 Collection and communication of data

All steps where energy use occurs are included in the management system. The following energy sources are used by BP: diesel for feedstock delivery; electricity and biofuels for pellet production; gasoline for biomass handling and shipping; diesel for biomass transportation to customer. Feedstock, biofuels, electricity and gasoline consumption values are based on actual consumption results. Diesel consumption value is based mostly on engineering calculations.

5.4 Competency of involved personnel

The SBP responsible staff has shown good understanding of the requirements in relation to SBP certification and FSC CoC system. The following staff members are involved into SBP certification: SBP responsible (chief accountant), director, pellet production chief, accountant.

Director is having overall responsibility for SBP certification and controls implementation of anti-corruption policy;

Pellet production chief is responsible for registration of the amount of the feedstock and biofuels used in pellet production, and amount of the produced biomass. He furthermore controls measurements of the feedstock and biomass moisture values;

SBP responsible (chief accountant) is responsible for: SBP documented procedure maintenance and updates; staff training; SBP trademark use; maintaining the list of SBP-certified customers; complaints registration; SBR and SAR completion;

Accountant is responsible for performance of the invoices and registration of the deals in DTS.

Organisation is furthermore permanently supported by external expert.

6 Review of company's risk assessments

6.1 Overview of company's risk assessments and mitigation measures

Not applicable.

6.2 Specified risk indicators and mitigation measures

Country/Area	Indicator	Specified risk description	Mitigation measure
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

7 Non-conformities and observations

NC number NC-001232 (01/21)		NC Grading: Minor
Standard:	SBP Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock	
Requirement:	IN2C; 4.1 The report shall be concise, covering the most important features, and shall be completed using the latest version of the SBR template for Biomass Producers downloaded from the SBP website.	
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:		
The Supply Base Report is concise and contains most of the all information required by SBP. During the SBR revision, auditor identified that the description of the shared of the harvested timber in the region is used in bioenergu secto is missing in the published SBR.		
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:	Updated Supply Base Report	
Findings for Evaluation of Evidence:	Organisation submitted to auditor the updated Supply Base Report. It contains all information required by SBP, including the share of the harvested timber in the region, used in bioenergy sector.	
NC Status:	Closed	

8 Certification decision

Based on the auditor's recommendation and the Certification Body's quality review, the following certification decision is taken:	
Certification decision:	Certification approved
Certification decision by (name of the person):	Pilar Gorría
Date of decision:	27 Apr 2022
Other comments:	N/A