



Sustainable Biomass Partnership

NEPCon Evaluation of Vattenfall Energy Trading GmbH Copenhagen Branch Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

First Surveillance Audit

www.sustainablebiomasspartnership.org



Completed in accordance with the CB Public Summary Report Template Version 1.0

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

Document history

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1 Overview

CB Name and contact: NEPCon OÜ, Filosoofi 31, 50108 Tartu, Estonia

Primary contact for SBP: Christian Rahbek car@nepcon.org, +45 50 59 76 24

Report completion date: 14/Sep/2017

Report authors: Christian Rahbek and Rebecka Mc Carthy

Certificate Holder: Vattenfall Energy Trading GmbH Copenhagen Branch,
Havneholmen 29, 5th floor, DK-1561 Copenhagen V

Producer contact for SBP: Gabriele Rahn

Certified Supply Base: N/A - Trader

SBP Certificate Code: SBP-01-47

Date of certificate issue: 21/Oct/2016

Date of certificate expiry: 20/Oct/2021

Indicate where the current audit fits within the certification cycle				
Main (Initial) Audit	First Surveillance Audit	Second Surveillance Audit	Third Surveillance Audit	Fourth Surveillance Audit
☐	☒	☐	☐	☐

2 Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate

Vattenfall Energy Trading GmbH Copenhagen Branch is the Copenhagen office of the energy trader Vattenfall Energy Trading GmbH (henceforth VET), located in Hamburg, Germany. The SBP certification scope contain trading activities only. VET is trading pellets and chips which is currently only bought from the Dutch sister company Vattenfall Energy Trading N.V. (VET NV). The organization holds a FSC CoC certificate with the certificate number CU-CoC-840002. The CoC system is based on the FSC transfer system principle. The purchase and sale are made at the same place; there is no physical ownership or handling, and therefore there is no change of GHG profile under VET GmbH Copenhagen Branch ownership. The scope of the certificate does not include physical possession of the material. The material is at the time of the audit only sold and delivered to the Copenhagen-based main client.

Audit scope description: Trading of wood pellets and wood chips for use in energy production in Europe. The scope of the certificate does not include Supply Base Evaluation.

Scope Item	Check all that apply to the Certificate Scope				Change in Scope (N/A for Assessments)	
Approved Standards:	SBP Standard #4 V1.0; SBP Standard #5 V1.0 http://www.sbp-cert.org/documents				☐	
Primary Activity:	Trader without physical possession				☐	
Input Material Categories:	☐ SBP-Compliant Primary Feedstock	☐ SBP-Compliant Secondary Feedstock			☐	
	☐ Controlled Feedstock	☐ SBP non-Compliant Feedstock				
	☐ SBP-Compliant Tertiary biomass	☐ Post-consumer Tertiary Feedstock				
	☐ SBP-approved Recycled Claim	☐ Post-consumer Tertiary Feedstock				
Chain of custody system implemented:	☒ FSC	☐ PEFC	☐ SFI	☐ GGL	☐	
	☒ Transfer	☐ Percentage		☐ Credit	☐	

Points of sales	☐ Harbour (including own handling of material)	☒ Harbour (e.g. FOB incoterms) legal owner is not responsible for handling of material at the harbour	☐ Other point of sale (e.g. gate of the BP, boarder, railway station etc.)	☐
Provide name of all points of sales	- - -	Copenhagen harbour	- - -	
Use of SBP claim:	☒ Yes		☐ No	
SBE Verification Program:	☐ Low risk sources only	☐ Sources with unspecified/ specified risk		☐
	New districts approved for SBP-Compliant inputs:			
Sub-scopes	N/A			☐
Specify SBP Product Groups added or removed: Wood pellets and wood chips as SBP-compliant biomass and Wood pellets and wood chips as SBP-controlled biomass				
Comments:				

3 Specific objective

The specific objective of this evaluation was to confirm that the Biomass Trader'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 Biomass Trader's management procedures;
- Interviews with responsible staff;
- Review of the records and calculations

4 SBP Standards utilised

4.1 SBP Standards utilised.

Chain of Custody, SBP Standard 4, Version 1.0, March 2015

Collection and Communication of Data, SBP Standard 5, Version 1.0, March 2015

Instruction documents 5A: Collection and Communication of Data,
 5B Energy and GHG Data
 5C Static Biomass Profiling data version 1.1, October 2016

<http://www.sbp-cert.org/documents>

5 Chain of Custody system

The organization has implemented the FSC transfer system for biomass (wood pellets and chips) in the scope of the certificate. The process covers trade with biomass without physical possession. The material is currently only purchased from the Dutch sister-company Vattenfall Energy Trading NV (VET NL) in exactly the same place; there is no physical ownership or handling, nor change of GHG profile under VET GmbH Copenhagen Branch ownership.

Each purchased material is recorded including the certification status of the material and the sales always contain the same type and quantity of material as purchased.

The FSC and SBP claim is mentioned on the sales invoices. The sustainability characteristics for each batch are also included. These consist of the GHG profiling and batch specific data from the Biomass producer, and GHG data relating to the transport, which are the responsibility of the supplier VET NL.

6 Evaluation process

6.1 Timing of evaluation activities

The assessment was carried out on August 10, 2017. One half day was needed for the onsite audit and additional half day for the documentation review.

Activity	Location	Auditor(s)	Date/time
Opening meeting*	Meeting room	CAR, RMC	10.08.2017 09.30-10.00
Interview with the SBP responsible person; review of procedures	Meeting room	CAR, RMC	10:00-10.30
Interview with Purchasing department representative (material sourcing and reception, purchasing documents)	Purchasing department (Front Office function will be further evaluated during SBP assessment in Amsterdam)	CAR, RMC	10:30-11:00
Interviews with the responsible staff members for different sections of the SBP control system (shipping, sales documents)	Sales department Logistics department Evaluation of paper flow and processing of sales documents.	CAR, RMC	11:00-11:30
Energy data collection and calculation, management of SBP batches and sustainability characteristics	SBP coordinator Logistics department	CAR, RMC	11:30 – 12:00
Presentation of the results of the first day of assessment	Meeting room	CAR, RMC	12:00-12:30

CAR – Christian Anton Rahbek, RMC – Rebecka Mc Carthy

6.2 Description of evaluation activities

Auditor was welcomed in the Vattenfall EnergyTrading GmbH Copenhagen Branch office in Copenhagen. Audit started with an opening meeting attended by Gabriele Rahn, Thea Nielsen and Penelope Andersen.

Lead auditor introduced the audit team, provided information about audit plan, methodology and aim of the assessment. The Certification Body's approval process and confidentiality approach were covered as well.

After that auditor went through all applicable requirements of the standard covering management system, CoC, recordkeeping requirements, emission and energy data and verification of SBP compliant biomass. Later on the purchasing and logistics functions were audited. Overall responsible person for the SBP system and staff having key responsibilities within the system was interviewed during the audit process.

During the closing meeting, the lead auditor presented the outcome of the audit and further actions to be taken were discussed.

Composition of audit team:

Name	Qualification	Role/focus in evaluation
Christian Rahbek	M.Sc. (Forestry) from University of Copenhagen. Has passed NEPCon Lead Auditor Training for FSC and PEFC FM and CoC certification. Experience from more than 180 FSC and PEFC CoC audits in Denmark and Europe. Christian has successfully completed SBP training course and has partaken in several SBP assessments.	Lead auditor. Verification of SBP-compliant feedstock. Evaluation of collection and communication of data. Evaluation of energy and carbon balance calculation.
Rebecka Mc Carthy	PhD (Forestry) from Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. M.Sc. (Forest Management) from the same university. Worked as a researcher on hardwood silviculture in southern Sweden.	Auditor in training (SBP)

7 Results

7.1 Compilation of data on Greenhouse Gas emissions

In absolute majority of the cases, Vattenfall Energy Trading is not responsible for any GHG emissions as the point of purchase is the same as the point of sale. Therefore, no additional energy is involved during the legal ownership of the material.

However, in the future there might be also cases where Vattenfall Energy Trading would be responsible for transport of the material and in such case the responsible person would have to calculate the shipping distances and emissions involved. During the onsite audit the responsible person demonstrated good knowledge about how the energy and emission data shall be collected, calculated and communicated to the customer using the SBP prescribed SREG document template.

7.2 Competency of involved personnel

The main responsible person in the company is Gabriele Rahn, Manager Biomass Business Development. The overall responsible person showed very good understanding of the requirements in relation to SBP certification and of the already implemented FSC CoC system. All other interviewed staff showed good competence, good awareness of standard requirements and own responsibilities.

7.3 Preconditions

No preconditions remain in the audit report.

8 Non-conformities and observations

No non-conformities remain after the audit.

9 Certification decision

Based on Organisation's conformance with SBP requirements , the auditor makes the following recommendation:	
☒	Certification approved: No NCR(s) issued.
☐	Certification not approved:
Based on auditor's recommendation and NEPCon quality review following certification decision is taken:	
NEPCon certification decision: The certificate can be maintained.	
Certification decision by: Ondřej Tarabus	
Date of decision: 14.09.2017	

10 Surveillance updates

10.1 Evaluation details

The evaluation was carried out as per the audit plan in report section 6.

10.2 Significant changes

There are no significant changes to the scope or activities of the organization.

10.3 Follow-up on outstanding non-conformities

Not applicable.

10.4 New non-conformities

Not applicable.

10.5 Stakeholder feedback

Not applicable.

10.6 Conditions for continuing certification

There are no conditions for continuing certification

10.7 Certification recommendation

It is recommended to continue the certification.

11 Evaluation details

Primary Responsible Person: (Responsible for control system at site(s))	Penelope Andersen, Head of office
Auditor(s):	Christian Rahbek, Lead auditor Rebecka Mc Carthy, Auditor in training
People Interviewed, Titles:	Gabriele Rahn, Manager Biomass Business Development Penelope Andersen, Head of office Thea Nielsen, Logistics Coordinator
Brief Overview of Audit Process for this Location:	See audit plan.
Comments:	N/A