Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

Preferred by Nature OÜ
Evaluation of Albioma Bois Rouge SAS

Fourth Surveillance Audit

Sustainable Biomass Program
sbp-cert.org

Completed in accordance with the CB Public Summary Report Template Version 2.0

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**

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1 Overview

Certification Body (CB) Name:	Preferred by Nature OÜ
Primary CB contact for SBP:	Pilar Gorria Serrano
Primary CB contact email:	pgorria@preferredbynature.org
Audit team leader:	Lennart Holm
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:	Albioma Bois Rouge SAS
Company legal address:	2 Chemin De Bois-Rouge, 97440 Saint-Andre, France
Company contact for SBP:	Olga Partina
Company contact email:	olga.partina@albioma.com
Company website:	https://www.albioma.com
Date of installation:	
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-10-50
Date of certificate issue:	29 Aug 2022
Date of certificate expiry:	28 Aug 2027
Audit closing meeting date:	26 Jun 2026
Audit cycle:	Fourth 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):	Mikhail Rai
Date of decision:	14 Sep 2026
Other comments:	N/A

2.2 Open non-conformities and observations

NC number 9432	NC Grading: Observation
Standard:	SBP Standard 2: Feedstock Verification v2.0
Requirement:	1.1.2 The Organisation shall include which feedstock category is being sourced. N/A N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
The company sources Forest feedstock (1A) from the island of Reunion. However, since the company also sources Post-consumer feedstock (5A) also from Reunion, this feedstock should be considered as a sourced feedstock category within the scope of the SBP certificate of the company	
Timeline for Conformance:	N/A
Evidence Provided by Company to close NC:	N/A
Findings for Evaluation of Evidence:	N/A
NC Status:	Open

2.3 Closed non-conformities

NC number 9265 copied from 5875	NC Grading: Observation
Standard:	SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody v2.0
Requirement:	1.8 The Organisation shall provide appropriate training for personnel carrying out tasks critical to the effective implementation of applicable requirements. Training shall be specific and relevant to the task(s) performed. N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	
Organization has a training plan. During the audit HR responsible shown the matrix with all mandatory training by each work position. A sample of staff and positions were selected by the auditor and relevant training records were evaluated. Auditor sampled the maintenance team for Albioma Bois Rouge with the relevant training requested for this position and the monitoring/records of the trainings performed. It has been identified that not all staff has the requested refreshed training. Albioma Bois Rouge has an open NCR related to training implementation under its ISO certificate. RCA has been stablished by Albioma and connected to different aspects (during the conversion from coal to biomass other type of training were prioritized, onsite trying from external outsourcing companies in charge to install the new equipment's took place), Corrective action is in place and the plan to conduct the pending training is in process. Planning has been provided to the auditor. An OBS is raised to evaluate the level of implementation next year. Audit 2026: Training plan and records were reviewed during the audit. The training record includes a column when training has to be completed by, and one column for completion date. Upon review, it was found that all mandatory trainings have been completed on an individual basis by the required completion date. OBS Closed.	
Timeline for Conformance:	N/A
Evidence Provided by Company to close NC:	N/A
Findings for Evaluation of Evidence:	N/A
NC Status:	Closed

NC number 9266 copied from 5950	NC Grading: Observation
Standard:	SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody v2.0
Requirement:	4.1 The SBP-certified Organisation shall ensure that all transactions of material included in its SBP product group schedule can be traced at least one step upstream and one step downstream from itself, and that all material is accounted for whilst under its legal ownership. N/A N/A
Description of Non-conformance and Related Evidence:	

Organization implements a management where the volumes can be traceback to on step downstream and all volumes evaluated in the audit were justified with relevant documents. However, during the audit it was identified that in the case of internal sales between Albioma le Gol and Albioma Bois Rouge, the connection between the invoicing of volumes and their management at the port with the relation of trucks going to each plant is not clear. One OBS is raised to clarify the system used Audit 2026: The company has updated their procedures to enable synchronization between invoiced volume and volume dispatched from the port, with also makes it clear where the volumes is being dispatched to, being Bois Rouge or Le Gol. There are also new controls developed to connect sales and volume invoiced with actual biomass sold. OBS Closed.	
Timeline for Conformance:	N/A
Evidence Provided by Company to close NC:	N/A
Findings for Evaluation of Evidence:	N/A
NC Status:	Closed

2.4 Actions taken by Organisation Prior to Report Finalisation

Not applicable

2.5 Notes for the next Audit

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3 Scope of the audit and SBP certificate

Scope item	Check all that apply to the Certificate scope
Primary activity	End User
Secondary activity	Biomass Producer
Approved Standards	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 REDII: Bridging requirements of the SBP scheme for meeting REDII. v1.2
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 RED II Scheme	Yes
Includes RED II Supply Base Evaluation (SBE)	Yes
Products	WB 2.1 Wood chips, WB 1.1 Wood pellets
Feedstock origin (countries):	France
SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used: **Public link:** **https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/**	Not applicable
Chain of custody system	☐ Physical separation ☒ Mass balance
Outsourcing	Yes
Changes in the 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.

Located in the north of Réunion Island, the Bois-Rouge co-generation plant, 100% biomass since late 2023, has an installed capacity of 108 MW, compared to 60 MW when it first opened in 1992 as a bagasse (a fibrous residue from sugar cane)/coal hybrid thermal power plant. It is adjacent to the Bois-Rouge sugar refinery which, during the sugar harvests, feeds it with the bagasse needed for its activity. The Bois-Rouge plant processed bagasse and green pulp into low pressure steam and electricity. Faithful to the co-generation principle, part of this energy return to the neighbouring sugar refinery, whilst the rest is sent to the Réunion grid. When converting to 100% biomass, priority was given to the local biomass deposits available (bagasse, forest wood, pruning wood, etc.), supplemented by the imported wood pellets, the traceability procedure of which will be compliant with the EU Wood Regulation (RBUE). Ultimately, the conversion to 100% biomass increased the proportion of renewables in the energy mix on Reunion Island from 35% to 51% and reduced the greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 640,000 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per year, i.e., an 84% decrease in direct emissions compared to the plant's current operating levels. As part of its biomass conversion work in the East Port, 4 (four) storage domes were installed. Albioma is certified under FSC, PEFC and SBP (End User and Trader) and is now acting as Producer of chips from local forest biomass.

3.2 Site details

Legal entity name	Address	Site Activity	Visited during the audit
Albioma Bois Rouge SAS	2 Chemin De Bois-Rouge, 97440 Saint-Andre, France	End User and Biomass producer	☒
Port of Saint Denis	Le Port, Réunion	Storage of pellets	☒

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.

4 Specific objective of the audit

The objective of this re-assessment was to confirm that Albioma´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 Albioma's management procedures, including requirements designated in applicable SBP Standards and Instruction Documents;
- Review of the production processes, production site visit; port visits
- Review of the updated Supply Base Report;
- Review of SBP system control points and an analysis of the existing PEFC and FSC CoC system;
- Evaluate PEFC DDS and RED II level A for local biomass (during the field visits), Level A is applicable as France applies the grandfather clause.
- Interviews with responsible staff;
- Review of the records and calculations;
- SAR and GHG data collection analysis.
- RED II mass balance requirements
- Interviews with responsible staff;

5 Evaluation process

5.1 Timing and duration of evaluation activities

Audit Level of Effort (LoE)		
Activity	**Auditors**	**Auditor hours**
1. Preparation	Lennart Holm	2.0
2. On-site (excl. travel time)	Lennart Holm	20.0
3. Report writing	Lennart Holm	8.0
4. Other	Lennart Holm	4.0

5.2 Auditor team qualification

Auditor qualification		
Auditor name	**Role**	**Qualification**
Lennart Holm	Lead Auditor	Lennart has over 25 years of auditing experience in Forest Management; Chain of Custody, SBP, GGL, Enplus and SDE+ audits, for various CBs. Lead SBP, ENplus, GGL, SDE+ and FSC, PEFC and SFI FM/COC auditor, as well as ISO9001 and ISO14001 lead auditor, and successfully passed the SBP auditor training program for V1 and V2.

5.3 Description of evaluation activities

The onsite audit in La Reunion started on Monday 22 of June with an opening meeting at the port of Saint Denis with management represtantives of Albioma, followed by a tour and inspection of the port and Albiomas pellet storage facilities. During the opening meeting the scope was confirmed for Albioma S.A.S, Albioma Le Gol and Albioma Bois Rouge. The auditor also explained auditing approach, triangulation methods to search conformity to be employed during the audit.

After this introduction, all relevant requirements of the applicable SBP standard(s) including RED II scope were verified on compliance through the use of a report template and checklists.

The port included in the scope of Albioma´s power stations in Reunion was reviewed on-site. All relevant requirements for storage locations at these ports were evaluated and found to be sufficiently managed. Critical

Control points were evaluated and found to be sufficiently managed and a closing meeting performed. The audit was conducted on-site at Albioma´s power stations in Reunion: Le Gol and Bois Rouge.

Tuesday 23rd, was focused on Albioma Le Gol evaluation.

Wednesday 24th started with a meeting with ONF representatives and Albioma. ONF presented the management system implemented in Cryptomeria plantations, how the management is integrated in the National Park when applicable, Forest management plans, Management objectives and silvilculture itineraries were discussed. After that a sample of FMUs were visited and forest activities were evaluated onsite.

On Thursday 25th ,auditor evaluated activities in Albioma Bois Rouge. The day started at the Power station, site tour was conducted focusing on biomass reception, feedstock storages and production process, health and safety was also verified.

On Friday 26th, pending topics to complete the evaluation of SBP, FSC and PEFC Certification were covered and a closing meeting was conducted, findings shared with the certificate holder and next steps agreed.

This report is the result of the findings of an audit carried out by an independent lead auditor. The purpose of the assessment was to assess the client's compliance with the standards used within the scope of the certificate.

A sufficient amount of people were interviewed during the site and field visits, where names withheld due to Data Protection Legislation

Critical Control points were evaluated and found to be sufficiently well managed and controlled.

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5.4 List of forest management units and feedstock suppliers visited

☐ N/A – No forest sites or suppliers visited during this evaluation

Site name
Grand Terre
Site location
Saint Leu
Site description
Concluded harvest on a 7.8 ha parcel of Cryptomeria japonica that was planted in 1981. Logs are separated in quality classes, where Albioma purchase and chip the lowest class, biologs. Site has been site prepared and re-planted with 2000 seedlings/ha. Deadwood standing and laying on the ground, erosion controlled by applying a winch system.
Rationale and focus of visit
Concluded harvest, verified protection of standing timber, silviculture activities, implementation of mitigation measures and the cascading principle.
Description of audit activity
Public forest Managed by ONF. Harvest prescription an silvicultural system verified, leave tree characteristics evaluated and erosion control measures inspected. Interview with supply manager, ONF technicians and sawmill owner.

5.5 Describe audit sampling methodology used

During audit preparation, a sampling plan was developed based on the following criteria: - A review of documentation related to energy and carbon data for the chosen SAR reporting period.   – Inspection of field sites harvest to verify company procedures and implementation of mitigation measures. -A visit to the port of Saint Denis. All applicable documents and procedures were reviewed. All relevant staff was interviewed All storage sites visited. A sample of four purchases and four transfers to Le Gol was conducted, including review of SBP claims including DBSD and RED II. All Cryptomeria plantations are included in one unique Forest Management Plan. One ara was selected where a concluded harvest was visited.

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.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan is developed at the HQ level for all Albioma trading and pellets consumption business. During the audit, stakeholder engagement plan was discussed and a couple of examples of interactions with stakeholders presented (meeting, conferences, working groups, etc.) The level of implementation is adequate with company operations.
Albioma is part of the **Fibois Océan Indien** interprofessional network (https://www.linkedin.com/company/fibois-oc%C3%A9an-indien/about/), which brings together all stakeholders in the biomass sector. The company has identified **49 stakeholders** in its engagement plan, including both public and private actors :
- Government forest regulators;
- Forestry contractors;
- Local and regional authorities;
- Community;

- Environment, nature conservation, NGO's;
- Forest and forest biomass certification entities

Fibois Océan Indien meets regularly throughout the year, providing a structured platform to exchange with all stakeholders and ensure continuous collaboration.

Albioma Bois-Rouge Supply Base Report is available on SBP website. Information of Albioma's activities and its policies are available to all stakeholders on the company website. Contacts and a contact form is available on the company website and therefore the stakeholders engagement is a continuous and on-going process.

5.7 Stakeholder feedback and response

☐ N/A – Certification Body stakeholder consultation not applicable for this evaluation

No Comments received

5.8 Main strengths and weaknesses of the management system and operations

The audit of Albioma demonstrated a good level of compliance with the required criteria of Standard 2. 4 and 5. There was reasonable evidence provided to support compliance with applicable SBP standards and RED II. The existence of a FSC/PEFC Chain of Custody system are considered a main strength with respect to Albioma's overall conformity with the relevant SBP standards.

Weaknesses: See raised OBS.

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 REDII

☒ 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

Albioma has extensive experience in implementing Chain of Custody requirements, as the company is certified by both PEFC and FSC. The traceability system is robust and clearly established within the organisation. Additional management system requirements are also well implemented.

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

Albioma assures the completeness of incoming documentation to forward to their buyers in case of trading wood pellets. Albioma is an end user, and trader without physical possession. Albioma will forward to its customer the energy use data, received from their suppliers, supported by the production of the applicable SREG.

For the chips purchased as Biomass Producer from local biomass and used in the power stations, energy data are collected and reported in the SAR. Feedstock classification is supported by onsite inspections, Forest management plans and other related document.

5.13 Summary of audit findings for competency of involved personnel

The company consist of a Corporate Social Responsibility department where the Director Member has the main responsibility related to the SBP system. During the audit the auditee showed clear and in-depth understanding of SBP, its procedures and the proper execution of those. Considering the size of the company, there were no risks detected related to the competency of involved

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 REDII scope

N/A

6.2 CB evaluation of specified risk indicators and mitigation measures