

SBP

Sustainable Biomass Partnership

NEPCon Evaluation of Panteon OOO Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report

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: Ondrej Tarabus ot@nepcon.net, +420 606 730 382

Report completion date: 02/Jan/2017

Report authors: Nikolai Tochilov

Certificate Holder: Panteon Ltd.

Legal address: Russian Federation, 198097 Saint Petersburg, Ogorodniy pereulok, 4, lit. A, office 3-H

Production site address: Russia, 174416 Novgorod region, Borovichi. Sovetskaya street, 144

Producer contact for SBP: Dmitry V. Golovkin, Director General. mob: +7 (921) 943-78-98, email: golovkin_dv@panteonspb.ru

Certified Supply Base: Sourcing from Russia, Novgorod and Tver regions

SBP Certificate Code: SBP-01-74

Date of certificate issue: 15/May/2017

Date of certificate expiry: 14/May/2022

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
X	☐	☐	☐	☐

2 Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate

The certificate scope covers the production site and office in Borovichi, Novgorod region, Russia.

The BP holds valid FSC Chain of Custody certificate, covering pellet production.

The input material used by the organisation for biomass production (both as raw material for pellet production and feedstock used into dryer) contains secondary feedstock supplied from FSC certified suppliers (FSC 100%, FSC Mix Credit and FSC Controlled Wood claims). Origin of the feedstock is Novgorod and Tver regions of Russia. Point of sale of the final product is Saint-Petersburg harbour (truck, FCA).

BP also purchases non-certified and non-controlled secondary feedstock and produces non-certified wood pellets for Russian internal market.

Supply Base Evaluation is not included into the scope of the evaluation.

Scope of the evaluation is indicated in the table below:

Scope Item	Check all that apply to the Certificate Scope				Change in Scope (N/A for Assessments)
Approved Standards:	SBP Standard #2 V1.0 SBP Standard #4 V1.0 SBP Standard #5 V1.0 http://www.sustainablebiomasspartnership.org/documents				☐
Primary Activity:	Pellet producer				☐
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 harbor	☒ Other point of sale (e.g. gate of the BP, boarder, railway station etc.)	☐
Provide name of all points of sales	-	-	S.Petersburg harbour, FCA	
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: SBE not applicable			
Sub-scopes	-			☐
Specify SBP Product Groups added or removed:				
Comments:				

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.

4 SBP Standards utilised

4.1 SBP Standards utilised

Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock, SBP Standard 2, Version 1.0, March 2015

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 document 5A Collection and Communication of Data version 1.0. March 2015

<http://www.sustainablebiomasspartnership.org/documents>

4.2 SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessment

Not applicable

5 Description of Biomass Producer, Supply Base and Forest Management

5.1 Description of Biomass Producer

BP is relatively small company having legal address in Saint-Petersburg and production site in Borovichi, Novgorod region, Russia. Total number of staff is 23. Maximum possible production capacity is 12 000 tonnes of pellets / year. Incoming feedstock is sawdust and sawmill residues (wood chips) from FSC certified wood processing companies in Tver and Novgorod regions. Final product is transported in big bags by trucks to S.Petersburg harbor where the biomass is taken into possession by new owner.

Non-controlled secondary feedstock is also purchased and processed physically separately from certified feedstock.

The BP has implemented FSC transfer system and produced biomass shall be sold with FSC 100% and FSC Mix Credit claim (SBP-compliant biomass), as well as with FSC Controlled Wood claim (SBP-controlled biomass).

5.2 Description of Biomass Producer's Supply Base

The total area of forest lands in Russia is 764 mln. ha, accounting for about 21% of the world standing timber. Coniferous species makes up 68,4%, hardwood broadleaved species – 2,4%, softwood broadleaved species – 19,3%. Other tree species makes up less than 1%.

In accordance with Russian legislation all forest lands are state owned. Legal entities can use forest areas in lease and short-term use. Lease relations are the dominant legal form of forest use. The lease term may continue from 10 to 49 years.

Entering into the lease agreement of forest lands or sale contracts of forest stands is carried out at the auction for selling the right to enter into such agreements. Forest areas for a lease must pass a state cadastral registration. According to the Forestry Code of the Russian Federation every forest user taking a lease forest land is obliged:

- to implement measures on forest protection and regeneration,
- to provide annual forest declaration,
- to prepare and implement a forest management plan,
- to provide a report on the timber harvest, forest protection and regeneration.

High quality reproduction of forest resources and protective forestation is a prerequisite for use of forests. All reforestation activities in leased forest areas are planned and carried out by forest users at their own expense in accordance with the forest management plans.

The forest complex of the Russian Federation, including forestry as well as wood harvesting and wood processing industries, plays an important role in Russian economy. About 60 000 of large-scale, medium-sized and small enterprises in all regions of the country are involved in Russian forest complex. The total number of employees in the forest complex of Russia is about 1 mln. people.

Forest certification is an effective tool for combating illegal wood harvesting and wood trade. The system of FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certification is widely used in Russia. Certified forests area in Russia is about 40 mln. ha, or 30% of the total number of forest under lease. The dynamics of forest certification in Russia shows the ever-increasing activity of wood companies, which indicates to the responsibility to ensure the legality of wood harvested and compliance with environmental and other requirements.

The supply base of Panteon Ltd

The supply base includes Novgorod and Tver regions.

Novgorod region

The climate of the Novgorod region is temperate continental, closest to the sea. The precipitation is 200-500 mm more than can evaporate. The annual number of their ranges from 540-750 mm. Maximum precipitation occurs in the summer (38%), slightly lower - in the fall (27%).

According to the Forest Plan of the Novgorod region (Federal Forestry Agency of the Federal State Institution "Saint-Petersburg Research Institute of Forestry", St. Petersburg, 2011), the total forest area of the Novgorod region as of January 1, 2011 was 3912.2 thousand. hectares, including covered by forest - 3367.2 thousand hectares. Currently, forests occupy 64.4% of the territory. Executive authorities of the Russian Federation in the field of forest relations in the Novgorod region is the Committee of forestry and forest industries Novgorod region. Under the authority of the Committee of forestry and forest industries Novgorod region are forests located on forest land, the total area of 3912.2 hectares

Forests located on the lands of the forest fund of the Novgorod region, for the intended purpose are divided into protection and performance. Reserve forests on the territory of the Novgorod region is not. Forest, located on the lands of other categories, according to the functions they perform can also refer to the protective forests.

For protection forests classified as forests which shall be developed in order to preserve the environmental, water protection, sanitation, recreation and other beneficial functions of forests with the simultaneous use of forests, provided this use is consistent with the purpose of protection forests and they perform useful functions. These forests occupy 838.1 thousand. Ha, or 21.4% of the total forest area.

For production forests classified as forests which shall be developed for sustainable, maximum efficient production of high-quality wood and other forest resources, their products to ensure the conservation of useful functions of forests. These forests cover 2529.1 thousand. Ha or 64.6% of the total forest area. The total annual wood stock increment Novgorod region forests is 10,290,000. Cu. m. or 3.05 cubic meters. m / ha.

Forest Novgorod region on forest lands occupy 89.8% of the total area of forests, 3.5% of the forests are located on the defense and security lands and lands of specially protected natural territories and objects and are not included in the forest fund.

Names and area of twenty-three forest funds, included in the forest areas of the Novgorod region: Batetskaya - 118,396 hectares, Borovichy - 212,476 hectares, Valdai - 212,476 hectares, Volotovskiy - 57,090 hectares, Demyansk - 205,095 hectares, Krestezkiy - 239,414 hectares, Lyubytinsky - 131,809 hectares, Malovishersky - 302,208 hectares, Marëvsky - 151,007 hectares, Moshensky - 176,656 hectares, Nebolochsky - 265,582 hectares, Novgorod - 143,041 hectares, Novoselitsk experimental forestry - 121,207 hectares, Okulovskiy - 182 959 hectares,

Parfino - 113,601 hectares, Pestovsky - 149,992 hectares, Poddorsky - 240,670 hectares, Soletskogo - 79,094 hectares, Staraya Russa - 184 528 hectares, Hvoyninsky - 262,888 hectares, Chelm - 174 240 ha, Chudovsky - 182,829 hectares, Shimskaya - 118 186 hectares.

Currently dominated by deciduous forest plantations as part of the region - 62.5%, the proportion of conifers - 37.4%, hardwoods are practically absent, their share is only 0.07% .Po of 01.01.2011. as part of the share of coniferous plantations of young trees is 31.6%, middle-aged - 24.7%, maturing - 23.4%, mature and perestroynyh - 20.3%. As part of the share of softwood plantations of young trees is only 8.8%, middle-aged plantations - 28,2%, maturing - 23.1%. Dominated by mature stands - 40,0%.

Operating margin of ripe and overripe stands on 01.01.2011 was 194.7 mln..kub..m, including 47.6 million. Cu .m softwood. It is dominated by spruce forests reserves (27.7 million cubic meters.). Stocks of softwood plantations account for 147.1 million. Cubic meters. m and have a tendency to increase stockpiling. The share of coniferous forests has increased in comparison with 2008, the prevalence of spruce preserved among the conifers. The proportion of softwood plantations remained at 75.2%.

The main type of forests in the Novgorod region is harvesting. In 2008, clear-cutting carried out on an area of 17,168.6 hectares Zago-reparation of wood 3640.0 thousand cubic meters., Of which tenants harvested 2443.0 thousand. Cubic meters. m in the area of 10889 hectares. Development of the annual allowable cut (AAC 2008 -.. 8816.6 thousand cubic meters) was 41%.

In 2009, clear-cutting carried out in the area - 11808 hectares with the volume of billet 2465.0 thousand cubic meters, incl. tenants Woodland -1,345.1 thousand cubic meters. on the area of 8226 hectares. Development of the annual allowable cut (AAC, 2009 -.. 8197.0 thousand cubic meters) was 30%.

In 2010, the allowable cut in the Novgorod region is set in the amount of 8197.0 thousand cubic meters. Actual timber harvesting in 2010 of do was 3111.4 thousand cubic meters., Including tenants harvested 1684.8 thousand. Cubic meters. m. The development of the annual allowable cut was 38%.

As of 01.01.2012 Mr. allowable cut based on the updated database state forest registry lesoho-tural regulations determined in the amount of 6362.9 thousand cubic meters.

The Novgorod Region takes steps to reforestation (artificial activities and combined reforestation, harvesting and purchasing forest seeds, care for forests). Total volume amounted to reforest 110,053 hectares.

Planting and sowing of forest plantations in the area carried out on an area of 53650 ha (49% of the total reforestation).

Measures to promote the natural regeneration of the forest held on an area of 56,403 hectares or 51% of the total reforestation. Reforestation Fund amounted to 37,300 hectares as of 01.01.2011

The tenants of forest areas in 2010, planting and sowing of crops produced on an area of 2523.5 hectares, accounting for 54.8% of the total forest plantations, carried out measures to promote natural regeneration on the area of 3109 ha (58.3%). The volume of reforestation is reduced from 2008 to 2010 (almost all types of events). Combined reforestation is not done.

Tver region

According to the Tver region Tver Oblast Forest Plan (Ministry of Forestry of the Tver region <http://les.tver.ru/>) as of 14.01.2013 the total area of forest located on lands of the forest fund of the Tver region was 4 875.6 thousand hectares. forests on lands of defense and security - 43.9 thousand hectares of urban forests (land settlements.) - 4.7 thousand hectares of forests on lands of specially protected natural territories -. 58.7 thousand hectares of forest land to other categories. - 108 thous. ha.

Forest area for its intended purpose as follows:

- protective forests - 2128.6 thousand ha.
- production forests - 2747 ha..

The composition of the forest of the Tver area stock includes forest land following forest areas: Bezhetsk, Zapadnodvinskoe, Kashin, Krasnokholmsky Ostashkovskoye, Staritsa, Tver, Torzhkovskaya, Toropetskiy, Udomlya, Firovsky.

As at 01.01.2012 as a part of the area dominated by deciduous forests nasazhdeniya- 56.9% and 43.1% hvoynyh-, hardwoods are practically absent (less than 0.02%).

As part of coniferous plantations in the forests of the Tver region the proportion of young growths of 22%, srednevozrastnyh- 37%, 23%, maturing, mature and perestoinyh- 18%. According to the age distribution of forest areas of coniferous plantations uniform.

As part of the share of softwood plantations of young trees is only 10%, dominated srednevozrastnye- 39% and mature stands, 32%, maturing plantations account for 18%. The age structure of softwood plantations in the context of forestry is extremely heterogeneous. The climate of the Tver region is temperate continental.

As of 01.10.2011 leased forest areas are located more than 2.5 million hectares with an annual volume of logging more than 4.3 million m³. On the territory of the Tver region operate about 1,000 forestry enterprises.

Over the past 35 years allowable cut on final felling in forestry enterprises State Forestry Service of the Tver region has been changed several times, from 4.9 million cubic meters in 1966 to 8.7 million m³ in 2010 (at the expense of forests previously owned by agricultural organizations 110). The total amount of wood to use with 1 ha of land covered with forest vegetation during this period decreased from 2.53 m³ in 1966 to 0.58 m³ in 2010.

Logging during final felling was mostly clear-way, with the development of the annual allowable cut for softwood economy has declined steadily and reached an average of 25% of the forest enterprises in 2002.

Use of annual allowable timber volume seizures in 2010, thous. m ³ of wood			
Farm	Annual Allowable Cut	Actual use	
		Total	Including tenants
Coniferous	3 221,3	1 733,8	853,8
Hardwood	0,0	0,0	0,0

Softwood	5 525,3	1 079,7	764,0
In total	8 746,6	2 813,5	1 617,8

Given the existing and planned rate of development of the AAC, the volume of logging in the forests of the Tver region should increase by 2018 compared to 2009 by 1.7 times, and the level of development of AAC (adopted by the Ministry) will be 61%. The use of AAC on coniferous reach 58.1%, and deciduous - 63.6%.

Analysis of the data relating to reforestation for the period 2006-2010. in the Tver region, it shows that reforestation is done, firstly, by artificial regeneration (of the plantation) softwood planting in fresh clearings, and secondly, due to natural regeneration (promoting natural regeneration). In 2010 The analysis showed that reforestation was performed on an area of 10,886 hectares. Of these, the main method is the artificial reforestation (in 2007 - 7598 m 2010 - 6530 hectares, which is respectively 56% and 60% of the total reforestation). Promotion of natural regeneration was 40% in 2010 (4356 ha) of all reforestation.

ООО "Panteon" does not buy the plant species, listed in the CITES or the IUCN plant Convention.

Raw materials for production of fuel pellets in the current period have been reported without FSC claims.

Raw materials for production of fuel pellets in the future reporting period, guided by FSC nomenclature will be supplied with the following statements in the following proportions:

- 70% the FSC 100% or FSC Mix Credit (considered by us as SBP-compliant secondary feedstock);
- 30% FSC Controlled Wood (considered by us as SBP-controlled secondary feedstock).

The main tree species are species and the ratio of the average (according to our study on procurement):

- 50% of pine (*Pinus sylvestris*);
- 50% of spruce (*Picea abies*).

The number of suppliers of raw materials - 2 (the Tver and Novgorod regions).

Detailed information about the supply base region (general description of the forest resources and forest management practices within the Supply Base) is publically available at the BP's homepage:

<http://panteon-pellet.ru/> , specifically:

http://panteon-pellet.ru/d/966449/d/panteon_sbr_ver_1-2_template_rus_ver.pdf – report in Russian, and

http://panteon-pellet.ru/d/966449/d/supply-base-report-template-for-bps-v1-2-panteon_eng.pdf - report in English.

5.3 Detailed description of Supply Base

Total Supply Base area (ha):	7 801 900 ha
Tenure by type (ha):	100% state owned, 100% private management
Forest by type (ha):	Boreal 7 801 900 ha
Forest by management type (ha):	100% Natural

Certified forest by scheme (ha):

249 373,2 ha FSC-certified forest

5.4 Chain of Custody system

The certificate scope covers the production site and office in Borovichi, Novgorod region. BP holds valid FSC CoC certificate <http://info.fsc.org/details.php?id=a023300000az5d6AAA&type=certificate&return=certificate.php>.

The input material used by the BP for biomass production (both as raw material for pellet production and feedstock used into dryer) contains secondary feedstock supplied from FSC certified sawmills (sawmill residues, sawdust). Origin of the feedstock is Novgorod and Tver regions of Russia. Point of sale of the final product is Saint-Petersburg harbour (delivery conditions – truck, FCA, S.Petersburg harbour).

Secondary feedstock is delivered to BP by trucks. In case when BP receives secondary feedstock with FSC 100% and FSC Mix Credit claim simultaneously, the feedstock is mixed and all feedstock then is considered as FSC Mix Credit material (downgrading of FSC claim). When BP receives secondary feedstock with FSC 100% claim only or with FSC Mix Credit claim only, pellets are produced with the relevant claim (either FSC 100% or FSC Mix Credit). When the feedstock with FSC Controlled Wood claim is mixed with the feedstock with FSC 100% and/or FSC Mix Credit claims, all material is considered as FSC Controlled Wood.

BP ensures physical segregation of certified material from any other non-certified material at all stages of handling and processing.

6 Evaluation process

6.1 Timing of evaluation activities

Onsite assessment was conducted on October 8, 2016 (11 h). Assessment activities included documents review at office, inspection of production facilities and staff interviews.

Activity	Location	Date/time
Opening meeting*	Office	08/10/2016 08.00-08.30
Documents and procedures review. Inputs review	Office	08/10/2016 08:30-12.15
Break		08/10/2016 12:15-13:00
Chain of custody review (site tour); GHG calculation review; Staff interview	Office	08/10/2016 13:00-19:00
Closing meeting*	Office	08/10/2016 19:00-19:15
End of the evaluation		08/10/2016 19:15

6.2 Description of evaluation activities

Composition of audit team:

Auditor(s), roles	Qualifications
Nikolai Tochilov	NEPCon SBP lead auditor. He passed SBP auditor training in Tallinn in January 2015 and has previous experience with more than 10 SBP assessments in Russia.

The assessment 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 GHG data availability.

Description of the assessment evaluation:

All SBP related documentation connected to the SBP as well as FSC CoC system of the organisation, including SBP Procedure, GHG data calculations/ data sheet, Supply Base Report and FSC system description was provided by the company prior to the assessment. Audit started with an opening meeting attended by the SBP responsible person and the Director General of the organization.

Auditor introduced himself, provided information about audit plan, methodology, auditor qualification, confidentiality issues, and assessment methodology and clarified certification 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 document 5a 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 biomass. During the process overall responsible person for SBP system, Director General and chief accountant were interviewed.

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

At the end of the audit finding were summarised and audit conclusion based on use of 3 angle evaluation method were provided to the Director General and SBP responsible person.

6.3 Process for consultation with stakeholders

The stakeholder consultation was carried out on 07th of March, 2016 by sending direct email to different stakeholder categories. The announcement was also published at NEPCon homepage

<http://www.nepcon.org/ru/%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8/%D0%BF%D1%83%D0%B1%D0%BB%D0%B8%D1%87%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B5-%D1%83%D0%B2%D0%B5%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%BC%D0%BB%D0%B5%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B5-07032016>

The long period between the beginning of the stakeholder consultation and the onsite audit was caused by postponing of the audit date after the initial date was already agreed and stakeholder consultation started.

No comments from the stakeholders were received.

7 Results

7.1 Main strengths and weaknesses

Strength: Use of the FSC transfer system. Effective recordkeeping system. Small number of the management staff and clearly designated responsibilities within the staff members.

Weaknesses: Auditor did not identify weaknesses during the assessment.

7.2 Rigour of Supply Base Evaluation

Not applicable.

7.3 Compilation of data on Greenhouse Gas emissions

BP has submitted actual information on energy use data (diesel, gasoline, electricity consumption).

7.4 Competency of involved personnel

The SBP responsible person in the company is Director General assistant Karina Yartseva, she showed highly professional skills and knowledge in FSC and SBP requirements. Karina was supported in full scale by Director General.

7.5 Stakeholder feedback

No stakeholder comments are received

7.6 Preconditions

None.

8 Review of Biomass Producer's Risk Assessments

Not applicable.

9 Review of Biomass Producer's mitigation measures

Not applicable.

10 Non-conformities and observations

None

11 Certification decision

Based on Organisation's conformance with SBP requirements, the auditor makes the following recommendation:	
☒	Certification approved: Upon acceptance of NCR(s) issued above
☐	Certification not approved:
Based on auditor's recommendation and NEPCon quality review following certification decision is taken:	
NEPCon certification decision: The Biomass producer has been certified by NEPCon as meeting the requirements of the specified SBP Standard, the certificate can be issued immediately after ASI approve the report. The expiration of the certificate will be then 5 years.	
Certification decision by: Ondřej Tarabus	
Date of decision: 2nd January 2017	

12 Surveillance updates

12.1 Evaluation details

Not applicable.

12.2 Significant changes

Not applicable.

12.3 Follow-up on outstanding non-conformities

Not applicable.

12.4 New non-conformities

Not applicable.

12.5 Stakeholder feedback

Not applicable.

12.6 Conditions for continuing certification

Not applicable.

12.7 Certification recommendation

Not applicable.

13 Evaluation details

Primary Responsible Person: (Responsible for control system at site(s))	Karina Yartseva, assistant of Director General
Auditor(s):	Nikolai Tochilov
People Interviewed, Titles:	Karina Yartseva, assistant of Director General Dmitriy Golovkin, Director General Gurgen Chalabyan, chief of pellet production Sergey Godunov, loader driver Alexey Kanaev, dryer operator Dmitry Pyankov, operator assistant
Brief Overview of Audit Process for this Location:	See section 6.2
Comments:	No comments