

## Public Summary – Board Meeting 18 Stichting DBC

Board Meeting 18 was held on December 06, 2018 with representatives of Engie, RWE, Vattenfall and Uniper participating. A representative of CKade participated as the secretariat to the meeting. All participants to the meeting confirmed that they had read and understood the Anti-Trust Compliance Policy Statement.

Stichting DBC (or DBC Foundation; hereafter referred to as DBC) was established under the Covenant 'Duurzaamheid Biomassa' (Biomass Sustainability) of the Dutch Energy Agreement. The objective of DBC is to promote and accomplish certification of small forest owners (defined as smaller than 500 ha) in North-America to support the agreed growth paths in the Covenant for reaching 100% FSC- or equivalent certification of woody biomass.

To prepare for the further implementation of the Stimulation Program in 2019 and beyond, DBC visited the American Forest Foundation (AFF) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) projects, which included small land owner meetings demonstrating sustainable forest management land and certification. DBC also organized a workshop with the pellet producers in the Southeast US to inform on the Dutch biomass certification policies and the implementation of DBC's Stimulation Program to promote SFO certification. The different meetings showed the need and value of an active exchange with relevant stakeholders for a successful Stimulation Program. DBC has therefore decided to further structure the interaction with certification schemes, pellet producers and utilities in the execution of the Stimulation Program.

DBC Board reiterated its concern with the situation of the approval of existing certification schemes. It identified the need to assess the implications of the certification scheme approval results for the implementation of the Stimulation Program with a view to promoting the acceleration of certification. The Board decided on the drafting of a terms of reference for a project to produce this information in January 2019.

Following publication of the Guideline for implementation of the non-legal criteria, DBC commissioned a benchmarking exercise of the extra-legal criteria against existing certification schemes. The objective is to determine if and to what extent existing certification schemes can be used to show compliance with the extra-legal criteria for the co-firing of biomass. The final report is expected in December 2018.

As biomass cofiring has actually started in 2018, the Board decided to appoint a Rapporteur for the 2018 Annual reporting that brings the authority and reputation to the benefit of the Annual Report and the midterm review that will build on this report. The Board adopted the 2019 budget, noting that the budget will be subject to the actual biomass tonnage contribution revenues in 2019. The Board decided on quarterly invoicing for the biomass used in 2019, in the month following each quarter. It also concluded that the biomass tonnage contribution should be based on the volume of woody biomass that is used, reflecting the scope of DBC (increasing certification of woody biomass). This decision is irrespective of the 3M Euro commitment.

The next Board meeting will take place on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

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