

Public Summary – Board Meeting 13 Stichting DBC

Board Meeting 13 was held on October 26, 2017 with representatives of Engie, RWE, Nuon/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.

While the NGOs and E-companies are engaged in a dispute settlement procedure, the DBC Board confirms that it will continue to invite the NGOs to participate in DBC and to contribute to the Stimulation Program. The absence of a response should not prevent the E-companies from continuing their activities to fulfill the obligations of the Biomass Covenant regarding the development and implementation of the Stimulation Program.

The Board decides to proceed with a call for proposals to obtain detailed offers for projects under the Stimulation Program. A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be sent out for the receipt of formal offers by 31 December 2017. A decision on the selection of project(s) will subsequently take place in the next Board Meeting (January 22, 2018). In addition, DBC will continue its active outreach to a US-NL initiative for the establishment of a bilateral partnership on biomass sourcing, sustainability and biorefinery to verify whether the eventual partnership could be to the benefit of DBC's objectives.

The Board adopts a DBC Governing Policy clarifying the policy framework under which DBC operates. The Governing Policy is downloadable from the DBC website. Also, the Board decided to publish the public version of the Multiyear Plan on the DBC website. Furthermore, the Board agreed with the format and content of a DBC (email) News Letter, which will be sent in November 2017.

A first discussion took place on the 2018 Program of Activities. This will include engagement with certification programs and with pellet mills contracted by E-companies, as stated in the Covenant provisions. A final 2018 Program of Activities will be put forward for approval in its next meeting.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2018.
