

## Public Summary – Board Meeting 10 Stichting DBC

Board Meeting 10 was held on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 with all Board members participating. The Board members are individual representatives of Engie, Nuon/Vattenfall, RWE and Uniper. A representative of Stichting Natuur en Milieu attended as an observer. A representative of CKade participated as the secretariat to the meeting.

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. The Covenant demands that the energy companies, with the environmental organizations, participate in DBC to achieve the objective.

DBC, its Board members, and all other people and companies in any way directly involved, acknowledge and understand that their collaborative activities must at all times be undertaken with an understanding of the importance of compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to laws and regulations relating to antitrust and competition. These laws are intended to preserve and promote free, fair and open as well as effective competition. Failure to abide by these laws can potentially have extremely serious consequences for DBC, its board members and its member organizations.

In Board meeting 10, all members to the Board reconfirmed the importance of antitrust compliance and recognized that apart from the formal obligations, the perception of third parties also needs to be taken into account when deciding on any further actions. The Board agreed that DBC should pursue maximum transparency in its activities and has therefore decided to advance with some immediate communication activities, including the launch of the DBC website and the production of a Q&A.

The Board approved the 2017 budget for implementation of the Stimulation Program. The Board elaborated the payment conditions for DBC Overhead and Stimulation Program costs. The granting of SDE+ subsidies and ambiguity of certain provisions in the Covenant raised further questions on the rights and obligations. In accordance with the Anti-Trust Compliance Policy Statement, the Board decided on a legal review of the Stimulation Program. A first activity DBC will execute is a data research study on the North-American forest sector and small forest owners, as it will yield important insights to tailor any future activities under the Stimulation Program. The results are expected in June 2017.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2017.

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