

Public Summary – Board Meeting 28 Stichting DBC

Board Meeting 28 was held on July 6, 2020 as an online meeting. Representatives of RWE, Vattenfall, PPR and Uniper participated. Also, a representative of PPR and Dentons were present as observers. 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 path in the Covenant for reaching 100% FSC- or equivalent certification of woody biomass.

Concerning the Stimulation Program DBC concluded AFF works to her best abilities in the given circumstances to produce the certification and RBA targets. At the same time, it remains challenging in light of the significant uncertainty posed by the covid-19 situation. The audit should primarily be an administrative audit, focusing on contract execution and management, cost accounting and the accounting of certified acreage. An audit including visual inspection on site of certified forest would only be appropriate when covid-19 conditions do permit.

For the DBC webinar on September 30th a reminder will be sent and guest speakers will be invited. The webinar will update key stakeholders on relevant NL policy developments and on the DBC 2019-23 Stimulation Program. It will also address practical implications and options to be taken by pellet producers and utilities to enable biomass to meet SDE+ requirements.

The 2019 annual report under the Covenant has been published by the Rapporteur (CE Delft). No further action is needed for DBC.

The third party observer concluded that all board members were equally involved in the discussions and decision-making and confirmed that none of the discussions, decisions or actions during the DBC board meeting of 28 May 2020 were in deviation from the anti-trust compliance policy statement.

The next Board meeting will take place on August 27, 2020.
