



Supply Base Report: Grand River Pellets, Limited

Fourth Surveillance Audit

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Completed in accordance with the Supply Base Report Template Version 1.5

For further information on the SBP Framework and to view the full set of documentation see www.sbp-cert.org

Document history

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1 Overview

Producer name: Grand River Pellets, Limited

Producer address: 300 Union Street, E2L 4Z2 Saint John, Canada

SBP Certificate Code: SBP-04-41

Geographic position: 47.188100, -67.928700

Primary contact: Maurice Fournier, +1 506 423 8477, fournier.maurice@jdirving.com

Company website: <https://www.jdirving.com/>

Date report finalised: 10 Jul 2023

Close of last CB audit: 10 Aug 2022

Name of CB: SCS Global Services

SBP Standard(s) used: SBP Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock

Weblink to Standard(s) used: <https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/standards>

SBP Endorsed Regional Risk Assessment: Not applicable

Weblink to SBR on Company website: https://www.grandriverpellets.com/globalassets/pelletplant/sbr-signed-by-maurice-sept.28_2022.pdf

Indicate how the current evaluation fits within the cycle of Supply Base Evaluations					
Main (Initial) Evaluation	First Surveillance	Second Surveillance	Third Surveillance	Fourth Surveillance	Re-assessment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 Description of the Supply Base

2.1 General description

Feedstock types: Primary, Secondary, Tertiary

Includes Supply Base evaluation (SBE): No

Includes REDII: N/A

Includes REDII SBE: N/A

Feedstock origin (countries): Canada, United States

2.2 Description of countries included in the Supply Base

Country:Canada

Area/Region: New Brunswick/Quebec

Sub-Scope: N/A

Exclusions: No

Grand River Pellets Supply Base in Canada consists of the following;

- J. D. Irving, Limited owned land in New Brunswick, Canada
- New Brunswick, Canada crown land
- New Brunswick, Canada private land
- Quebec, Canada private land

J.D. Irving, Limited owned land and New Brunswick Crown Land is managed to achieve economic, social, environmental and ecological objectives. The forest has been zoned into the general forest, where timber production is a primary objective, and special management zones including unique sites, deer wintering areas, and mapped riparian zones, each of which has specific environmental, habitat or social objectives.

The Supply Base is within the Acadian Forest Region and consists of spruce, balsam fir, cedar, maple, birch and poplar. Adjacent lands are similar in forest composition and land use structure. Two other forest-based industries (pulp mills) in the area would operate under a similar scale of harvesting.

Forest Management practices are similar on crown land and large freehold land. They consist of 80-year rotation forest management plans that ensure sustainability of the wood supply for local mills. Annual operating plans are implemented to meet the forest management plan objectives. Third Party audited Forest Certification is used to ensure economic, environmental and social principles are met. Private land

harvesting is managed through Marketing boards that provide woodlot management advice, and plans, to private woodlot owners.

The bioenergy sector is a minor portion of the harvested timber in the region.

We have three product group in this region (Sawdust, Shavings & Wood Chips). We have 2 suppliers for wood chips, 6 suppliers for sawdust & 2 suppliers for shavings. These suppliers include J.D. Irving.

From a socio-economic standpoint, J.D. Irving is a major employer in the region and contributes to the economic development by purchasing goods and services from local providers; also, J.D. Irving contributes to local sports and events by donating material & creating events to fund local organizations.

In the Quebec region we are getting wood from the Gaspé Peninsula the rest of Quebec is excluded. For New Brunswick, we are getting wood from the entire province.

Country:United States

Area/Region: Maine

Sub-Scope: N/A

Exclusions: No

Grand River Pellets Supply Base in the USA consists of the following;

- J. D. Irving, Limited owned land in Northern Maine,USA
- Maine, USA private land

J. D. Irving, Limited owned in Maine is managed to achieve economic, social, environmental and ecological objectives. The forest has been zoned into the general forest, where timber production is a primary objective, and special management zones including unique sites, deer wintering areas, and mapped riparian zones, each of which has specific environmental, habitat or social objectives.

The Supply Base is within the Maine Forest Region and consists of spruce, balsam fir, cedar, maple, birch and poplar. Adjacent lands are similar in forest composition and land use structure. Other forest- based industries (Sawmills) in the area would operate under a similar scale of harvesting.

Forest Management practices consist of 80-year rotation forest management plans that ensure sustainability of the wood supply for local mills. Annual operating plans are implemented to meet the forest management plan objectives. Third Party audited Forest Certification is used to ensure economic, environmental and social principles are met. Private land harvesting is managed by private land owners and their contractors.

The bioenergy sector is a minor portion of the harvested timber in the region.

We have three product group in this region (Sawdust, Shavings & Wood Chips). We do not have any suppliers for wood chips from this region, 4 suppliers for sawdust & 1 suppliers for shavings. These suppliers include J.D. Irving.

From a socio-economic standpoint, J.D. Irving is a major employer in the region and contributes to the economic development by purchasing goods and services from local providers; also, J.D. Irving contributes to local sports and events by donating material & creating events to fund local organizations.

The wood coming from Maine is coming from Northern Maine (North of Bangor - the north of the 45th parallel) the rest of the state would be excluded.

2.3 Actions taken to promote certification amongst feedstock supplier

SBP feedstock is obtained through SBP - approved Chain of Custody Certification System (SFI or FSC) and SBP compliant.

2.4 Quantification of the Supply Base

Supply Base

- a. **Total Supply Base area (million ha):** 8,20
- b. **Tenure by type (million ha):**5.00 (Privately owned), 3.20 (Public)
- c. **Forest by type (million ha):**8.20 (Temperate)
- d. **Forest by management type (million ha):**2.00 (Managed natural), 6.20 (Natural)
- e. **Certified forest by scheme (million ha):**0.80 (FSC), 5.00 (SFI)

Describe the harvesting type which best describes how your material is sourced: Mix of the above

Explanation: The dominant machines use are cut to length harvesters and forwarders. Thinning is used to manage long lived species and young natural and planted stands. Clear felling is used to manage short lived species that are mature.

Was the forest in the Supply Base managed for a purpose other than for energy markets? Yes - Majority

Explanation: Harvesting in the supply base area is primarily to feed sawmills. Chips from the sawmills are delivered to pulp mills.

For the forests in the Supply Base, is there an intention to retain, restock or encourage natural regeneration within 5 years of felling? Yes - Majority

Explanation: The supply base area produces abundant natural regeneration after harvest. SFI certification requires sites to be regenerated after 5 years of felling.

Was the feedstock used in the biomass removed from a forest as part of a pest/disease control measure or a salvage operation? No

Explanation: N/A

What is the estimated amount of REDII-compliant sustainable feedstock that could be harvested annually in a Supply Base (estimated): N/A N/A

Explanation:N/A

Feedstock

Reporting period from: 01 Jun 2022

Reporting period to: 31 May 2023

- a. **Total volume of Feedstock:** 200,000-400,000 tonnes
- b. **Volume of primary feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
- c. **List percentage of primary feedstock, by the following categories.**
 - Certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: 80% - 100%
 - Not certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: 0%
- d. **List of all the species in primary feedstock, including scientific name:** Abies balsamea (Balsam Fir); Picea rubens (Red Spruce); Picea glauca (White Spruce); Picea mariana (Black Spruce); Picea abies (Norway Spruce); Pinus banksiana (Jack Pine); Pinus strobus (White Pine); Pinus resinosa (Red Pine); Larix laricina (Tamarack); Tsuga canadensis (Hemlock); Thuja occidentalis (Eastern White Cedar); Acer saccharinum (Sugar Maple); Acer rubrum (Red Maple); Acer pensylvanicum (Striped Maple); Betula alleghaniensis (Yellow Birch); Betula papyrifera (White Birch); Betula populifolia (Grey Birch); Fagus grandifolia (Beech); Quercus rubra (Red Oak); Quercus macrocarpa (Bur Oak); Populus tremuloides (Trembling Aspen); Populus balsamifera (Balsam Poplar); Populus grandidentata (Large Tooth Aspen); Ostrya virginiana (Ironwood);
- e. **Is any of the feedstock used likely to have come from protected or threatened species?** No
 - Name of species: N/A
 - Biomass proportion, by weight, that is likely to be composed of that species (%): N/A
- f. **Hardwood (i.e. broadleaf trees): specify proportion of biomass from (%):** 8,88
- g. **Softwood (i.e. coniferous trees): specify proportion of biomass from (%):** 91,12
- h. **Proportion of biomass composed of or derived from saw logs (%):** 0,00
- i. **Specify the local regulations or industry standards that define saw logs:** Small end diameter greater than 10.6 centimeters.
- j. **Roundwood from final fellings from forests with > 40 yr rotation times - Average % volume of fellings delivered to BP (%):** 0,00
- k. **Volume of primary feedstock from primary forest:** 0 N/A
- l. **List percentage of primary feedstock from primary forest, by the following categories. Subdivide by SBP-approved Forest Management Schemes:**
 - Primary feedstock from primary forest certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
 - Primary feedstock from primary forest not certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
- m. **Volume of secondary feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
 - Physical form of the feedstock: Chips, Sawdust, Offcuts
- n. **Volume of tertiary feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
 - Physical form of the feedstock: Offcuts, Shavings
- o. **Estimated amount of REDII-compliant sustainable feedstock that could be collected annually by the BP:** N/AN/A

Proportion of feedstock sourced per type of claim during the reporting period

Feedstock type	Sourced by using Supply Base Evaluation (SBE) %	FSC %	PEFC %	SFI %
Primary	0,00	0,00	0,00	100,00
Secondary	0,00	0,00	0,00	100,00
Tertiary	0,00	0,00	0,00	100,00
Other	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00

3 Requirement for a Supply Base Evaluation

Note: Annex 1 is generated by the system if the SBE is used without Region Risk Assessment(s). Annex 2 is generated if RED II SBE is in the scope.

Is Supply Base Evaluation (SBE) is completed? No

N/A

Is REDII SBE completed? N/A

N/A

4 Supply Base Evaluation

Note: Annex 2 is generated if RED II is in the scope.

4.1 Scope

Feedstock types included in SBE: N/A

SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used: Not applicable

List of countries and regions included in the SBE:

Country: N/A

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

N/A

Specific risk description:

4.2 Justification

N/A

4.3 Results of risk assessment and Supplier Verification Programme

N/A

4.4 Conclusion

N/A

5 Supply Base Evaluation process

N/A

6 Stakeholder consultation

N/A

6.1 Response to stakeholder comments

N/A

7 Mitigation measures

7.1 Mitigation measures

N/A

7.2 Monitoring and outcomes

N/A

8 Detailed findings for indicators

Detailed findings for each Indicator are given in Annex 1 in case the Regional Risk Assessment (RRA) is not used.

Is RRA used? N/A

9 Review of report

9.1 Peer review

N/A

9.2 Public or additional reviews

N/A

10 Approval of report

Approval of Supply Base Report by senior management			
Report Prepared by:	Maurice Fournier	Quality, Certification Manager	10 Jul 2023
	Name	Title	Date
The undersigned persons confirm that I/we are members of the organisation's senior management and do hereby affirm that the contents of this evaluation report were duly acknowledged by senior management as being accurate prior to approval and finalisation of the report.			
Report approved by:	Nicholas MacGougan	General Manager	10 Jul 2023
	Name	Title	Date

Annex 1: Detailed findings for Supply Base Evaluation indicators

N/A

Annex 2: Detailed findings for REDII
Supply Base Evaluation

Section 1. RED II

N/A

Section 2. RED II detailed findings for secondary and tertiary feedstock

10.1 Verification and monitoring of suppliers

N/A

10.2 Feedstock inspection and classification upon receipt

N/A

10.3 Supplier audit for secondary and tertiary feedstock

N/A