Public Notification Letter

To: Interested Parties
From: SCS Global Services
Date: March 12, 2013
Re: Notification of Pending FSC Certification Evaluation of PF Olsen (Aus) Pty Ltd SLIMF Group

Summary: As part of an FSC assessment, SCS is currently seeking stakeholder input regarding the forest management of PF Olsen (Aus) Pty Ltd. Please comment via email, or call our offices or representatives to discuss (contact info below).

PF Olsen (Aus) Pty Ltd is seeking Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) endorsed certification for their SLIMF Group. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a non-profit organization devoted to encouraging the responsible management of the world’s forests. FSC sets standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable way.

PF Olsen is an independent forest management services provider acting for clients throughout Australia. The area under evaluation includes 7 small private landowners and forest management units being managed by PF Olsen. Properties are primarily multi-species plantations for the production of high quality cabinet timber, and are located throughout Queensland. The forest management units range from 1.5-29 ha in size, totalling roughly 150 ha.

Scope and Certification Evaluation Process

SCS Global Services (SCS), a FSC-accredited certification body based in Emeryville, California, will conduct this FSC evaluation.

Performance will be evaluated against the SCS Interim Standard for SCS Interim Standard for Natural Forest and Plantation Forest Management in Australia under the Forest Stewardship Council, V
1.0. A copy of the standard is available from http://www.scsglobalservices.com/certification-standards-and-program-documents or SCS upon request.

The Evaluation Process Includes the Following Phases:

§ Public notification: distribution of the standard and solicitation of comments on the certification applicant;
Audit planning and document review;

§ Field assessment: A representative sample of field sites and operations within the defined forest area are inspected by a team of auditors;

§ Stakeholder consultation;

§ Synthesis of findings: Compliance with the standard is ascertained and the certification decision is formulated;

§ Reporting: A draft report describing the evaluation process, findings, and certification decision is produced;

§ Delivery of final certification report;

§ Certification decision: a public summary of the certification report is released, if certification is awarded.

Evaluation Team
Graeme Lea - FSC Lead Auditor

Call for Public Participation
SCS welcomes comments on the forest management of PF Olsen or other topics pertinent to their seeking FSC certification, such as whether PF Olsen complies with the legal, social, technical, and environmental requirements of the standard or identification of high conservation value forests[1] within their SLIMF Group lands. Comments can be submitted via email, standard mail, or facsimile to Graeme Lea. The audit team can make arrangements to allow stakeholders to meet with them during the evaluation upon request. All comments and sources will be kept in strict confidence at the request of the commenter.
Dates

The field evaluation is scheduled to commence during the week of April 22nd, 2013. SCS will make arrangements to meet with interested parties during the evaluation if appropriate, but it is preferred that comments are submitted before the evaluation commences.

Dispute Resolution Procedure

As provided by the FSC Interim Dispute Resolution Protocol and the SCS Forest Conservation Program Quality Manual, dispute resolution procedures are in place and available to interested parties at http://www.scs globalservices.com/your-feedback

Additional Information


Please contact us

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