

Forest Management Certification Reassessment of State Forestry Enterprises of Minsk State Forestry Board

11 State Forestry Enterprises of Minsk State Forestry Board:

SEFE "Borisov experimental forestry"

SFE "Berezinsky forestry"

SEFE "Vileika experimental forestry"

SFE "Logoisk forestry"

SEFE "Stolbtsy experimental forestry"

SFE "Cherven forestry"

SFE "Minsk forestry"

SFE "Volozhin forestry"

SFE "Uzda forestry"

SFE "Krupski forestry",

SFE "Molodechno Forestry"

**All these State Forestry Enterprises have a certificate,
that was issued for Minsk State Forestry Board
Minsk Regional Forest Board - NC-FM / COC-013435**

**in accordance with the decision of the authorities of Minsk State Forestry Board all
these state forestry enterprises will be reassessed separately (each forestry
enterprise separately)**

Introduction – NEPCon is conducting forest management and chain of custody certification reassessments of the State Forestry Enterprises of Minsk State Forestry Board located in Minsk Region, Republic of Belarus.

SEFE "Borisov experimental forestry", SFE "Berezinsky forestry", SEFE "Vileika experimental forestry", SFE "Logoisk forestry", SEFE "Stolbtsy experimental forestry", SFE "Cherven forestry", SFE "Minsk forestry", SFE "Volozhin forestry", SFE "Uzda forestry", SFE "Krupski forestry", SFE "Molodechno Forestry".

The reassessments will be implemented starting from April 11, 2016.

Scope of the Certification Assessment – The forest management certification procedure aims at assessing the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of the forests managed by State Enterprises using the "NEPCon Interim Standards for Belarus. In order to obtain a copy of these standard, please contact NEPCon representatives by telephone, email or on website listed below; standard may also be found at the link in the internet www.nepcon.net

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UAB "NEPCon LT" Giruliu g. 20-81, 12112 Vilnius, Lietuva
Адрес: Giruliu str. 20-81, LT-12112 Вильнюс, Литовская Республика; Тел: +370 684 78729 Email: lithuania@nepcon.net

Представитель в Республике Беларусь: Александр Зубкевич,
Почтовый адрес: а/я 5, 223011, п. Прилуки, Минский район, Республика Беларусь,
Тел. моб+375293807240, Тел/факс: +375 17 2990694, E-mail: belarus@nepcon.net az@nepcon.net
Менеджер по сертификации компании НЭПКон в Республике Беларусь: Виктор Михалькевич,
мобильный телефон +375 29 337 20 71 e-mail: vmi@nepcon.net

В Российской Федерации: ООО «НЭПКон» | ул. Урицкого 1, офис 312 | г. Архангельск 163002 Россия
| www.nepcon.net | russia@nepcon.net Телефон: +7 9115572080 | Факс: +7 8182 276879

Assessment Team Composition – The reassessment teams will consist of auditors from Belarus as well as Lithuania, Ukraine and Latvia.

Assessment Steps and Schedule – there is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Reassessment organization – NEPCon teams will be met in Minsk (discussing organizational issues).
- ◆ Field assessments – The teams will visit sites managed by State Forestry Enterprises (SEFE "Borisov experimental forestry", SFE "Berezinsky forestry", SEFE "Vileika experimental forestry", SFE "Logoisk forestry", SEFE "Stolbtsy experimental forestry", SFE "Cherven forestry", SFE "Minsk forestry", SFE "Volozhin forestry", SFE "Uzda forestry", SFE "Krupski forestry", SFE "Molodechno Forestry").
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldworks, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding State Forestry Enterprises (see above) in villages surrounding the forest area. This will include private interviews and discussions, and public stakeholder meetings.
- ◆ Presentation of preliminary audit results – Prior to departure the team will meet with the State Forestry Enterprise managers and other parties to finalize their collected data, and present preliminary findings.
- ◆ Draft report development – The assessment team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comments to State Forestry Enterprise. This should occur 30 days after completion of the reassessment.
- ◆ Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from State Forestry Enterprise forest managers, and other general stakeholder comments, NEPCon will reach a certification decision.

Your Input Sought – As a part of the forest certification assessment process we invite stakeholders to offer comments and feedbacks on State Forestry Enterprises ((SEFE "Borisov experimental forestry", SFE "Berezinsky forestry", SEFE "Vileika experimental forestry", SFE "Logoisk forestry", SEFE "Stolbtsy experimental forestry", SFE "Cherven forestry", SFE "Minsk forestry", SFE "Volozhin forestry", SFE "Uzda forestry", SFE "Krupski forestry", SFE "Molodechno Forestry")) - in relation to conformance with the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the reassessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the reassessment, during the reassessment, or prior to **April 11, 2016**, so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows.

1. Meet with a NEPCon reassessment team members during or shortly after the fieldwork.
2. Call and give comments to Aliaksandr Zubkevich, NEPCon staff person responsible for coordinating this certification assessment as representative of NEPCon in Belarus. If Aliaksandr Zubkevich is not in the office, please give your comments to Viktor Mikhalkevich.
3. Submit written comments by mail, or email to Aliaksandr Zubkevich. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing the State Forestry Enterprises.

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Адрес: Giruliu str. 20-81, LT-12112 Вильнюс, Литовская Республика; Тел: +370 684 78729 Email: lithuania@nepcon.net

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Почтовый адрес: а/я 5, 223011, п. Прилуки, Минский район, Республика Беларусь,
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Менеджер по сертификации компании НЭПКон в Республике Беларусь: Виктор Михалькевич,
мобильный телефон +375 29 337 20 71 e-mail: vmi@nepcon.net

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The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only the FSC and NEPCon staff.

Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access NEPCon complaints, appeals and dispute resolution procedures at <http://www.nepcon.net/dispute-resolution-policy>

Contacting NEPCon

- ◆ Email: az@nepcon.net (Aliaksandr Zubkevich), vmi@nepcon.net (Viktar Mikhalkevich)
- ◆ Website – www.nepcon.net.
- ◆ Telephone +375 29 3807240 (Aliaksandr Zubkevich), +375 29 337 20 71 (Viktar Mikhalkevich)
- ◆ Mailing address – Aliaksandr Zubkevich, box 5, 223011 v. Priluki, Minsk district, Republic of Belarus

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