

## Public Notification

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To: Interested Parties  
From: SCS Global Services  
Date: 04/02/2024  
Re: Notification of Planned FSC Certification Evaluation of Ghana Primewood Products Limited

***PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO SHARE THIS NOTIFICATION WITH ANY PERSON OR ORGANIZATION YOU THINK WOULD BE INTERESTED.***

**Summary: As part of an upcoming Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®) certification evaluation, SCS is currently seeking stakeholder input regarding the forest management program and practices of Ghana Primewood Products Limited . Please comment via email or contact our offices (contact information below).**

In pursuit of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) endorsed forest management certification, Ghana Primewood Products Limited will be undergoing an audit in May or June of 2024. The audit will be conducted by SCS Global Services, a FSC-accredited certification body. The Forest Stewardship Council 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.

Ghana Primewood products Limited manages three reserves of a total of 22778 Hectares. The Bowiye Range Forest Reserve is a natural forest area in the central region of Ghana and spans 5227 Hectares. The second reserve Bonsa River Forest Reserve has a total area of 9276 hectares and is located in the western region of Ghana and is a natural forest area. Finally the Subri River Forest Reserve spans 8275 hectares and is a natural forest area in the western region of Ghana.

\*Please note that the organization proposes to exclude some areas under their management from their certification, e.g. rights of way.

### **Scope and Certification Evaluation Process**

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

Performance will be evaluated against the FSC-STD-30-010 V2-0. 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 components:

- 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 is carried out prior to and during the field assessment;
- Synthesis of findings: conformity to the standard is ascertained and the certification decision is formulated;
- Reporting: a draft report describing the evaluation process, findings, and certification decision is produced;
- Peer review: the draft evaluation report is peer reviewed by independent natural resource professionals;
- Finalization of the report and conveyance to the SCS Certification Committee for the final certification decision;
- Certification decision: the final report and certification decision is conveyed to the applicant; a public summary of the certification report is released if certification is awarded.

### Call for Public Participation

SCS is seeking comments on the forest management of Ghana Primewood Products Limited or other topics pertinent to their seeking FSC certification, such as whether Ghana Primewood Products Limited complies with the legal, social, technical, and environmental requirements of the standard or identification of high conservation value forests<sup>1</sup> within the lands managed by Ghana Primewood Products Limited. Comments can be submitted via email to [FSCConsultation@scsglobalservices.com](mailto:FSCConsultation@scsglobalservices.com), standard mail, or facsimile. ***All comments and sources will be kept in strict confidence at the request of the commenter. Also, please feel welcome to forward this message on to other stakeholders that you think may have an interest in sharing their perspective on this assessment.***

### Date of the Evaluation

The field evaluation is scheduled to start in May or June of 2024. When possible, SCS will make arrangements to meet with interested parties during the evaluation if appropriate, but it is preferred that comments are submitted before the field evaluation commences.

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<sup>1</sup> Principle 9, in the FSC Principles and Criteria.

**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.scsglobalservices.com/your-feedback>.

**Additional Information**

More information about FSC and SCS can be obtained from [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org) and [www.SCSglobalServices.com](http://www.SCSglobalServices.com).

**Please Contact Us**

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