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Verification Service Policies

SmartWood policies related to legality verification (VLO/VLC):

1. SmartWood reserves the right to refuse the provision of VLO/VLC to a client where association may damage SmartWood's reputation. This decision shall be based on an analysis of the organization's activities and the portfolio of facilities and/or entities under its management, both as it relates to the sites directly included in the scope of the verification as well as other company owned or managed companies or facilities.
2. SmartWood shall not provide VLO or VLC verification of wood or wood products originating from conversion of natural forest to plantation or other land uses, even if the local regulatory authority has deemed it legal for natural forest to be cleared.
3. SmartWood require that clients verified to either VLO or VLC standards are proactive in attaining a higher level of performance and strive to achieve sustainable forest management and FSC certification of their sources of wood. SmartWood may decide to limit the time during which it will provide verification services to 3 years if it is found that the client does not take appropriate action to seek a higher level of certification or identify certified sources. The decision on whether or not to continue verification services will be taken based on an evaluation of the organizations activities to achieve a higher level of certification. Dependent on progress and the type of organization (FME or industry) SmartWood may require the organization to enter into our SmartStep Program or move on to a higher level of verification.
4. SmartWood will allow material or products verified as VLO or VLC to pass through a portion of a supply chain with a COC control system audited by another certification body only when SmartWood has approved said system (contact SW for information about which systems have been formally approved).
5. SmartWood requires full access to audit all entities included in the scope of the verified supply chain even if these are not under the direct ownership of the Verification Statement Holder. If auditors are denied access to any facilities, places, or documents the site in question shall be immediately excluded from the scope of the verification. If the holder of the Verification Statement exercises such limitations of the auditors, the Verification Statement shall be immediately terminated.
6. Customary rights are considered to be an integral part of legality verification and it is expected that applicants for legality verification have identified and recognized customary rights and tenure where applicable and are recognized by law. In cases where customary tenure is regarded as a particularly important issue, SW may

choose to carry out stakeholder consultation in connection to the verification assessment or audits.

7. Rainforest Alliance will determine the limits of use to Rainforest Alliance and/or SmartWood names, verification mark or logos in conjunction with this service for business to business and off-product communications.