



**Public Briefing Paper for FSC Forest Management Controlled Wood
Annual Audit 2013 of Gunns Ltd**

Monday 13 May 2013

The Rainforest Alliance announces its intention to conduct an audit of Gunns Ltd forestry operations from 13th to 20th June 2013, as required under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) FM Controlled Wood Standard.

Gunns Ltd holds a valid certificate (SW-CW/FM-005365); this certificate has remained valid while Gunns Ltd entered into administration, receivership and liquidation. It will remain valid unless Gunns Ltd is found not to conform to the requirements of the FSC FM Controlled Wood Standard.

What

The purpose of the Audit will be to assess the ability of Gunns Ltd to supply controlled wood as defined by the **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in the FSC standard for forest management enterprises (FSC-STD-30-010, version 2-0)**.

The intent of this standard is to allow forest management enterprises to supply FSC Controlled Wood to FSC chain-of-custody certified operations for mixing with FSC certified materials in production of FSC mixed products.

To comply with the specified controlled wood Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standard for forest management enterprises supplying non FSC-certified controlled wood (FSC-STD-30-010, version 2-0) Gunns Ltd is required to provide evidence that the wood they supply has been controlled to avoid wood from the five controversial categories defined by FSC.

Controversial categories include wood that is:

- 1) Illegally harvested;
- 2) Harvested in violation of traditional and civil rights;
- 3) Harvested in forest management units in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities;
- 4) Harvested in areas in which forests are being converted to plantations or non-forest use;
- 5) Harvested from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted.

The forest under evaluation contains areas either identified as High Conservation Value Forests or where high conservation values, as defined by the FSC, are likely found.

Get Involved

The Rainforest Alliance invites stakeholders to comment on Gunns Ltd's forest management in relation to the requirements of the forest management Controlled Wood standard (FSC-STD-30-010 v2.0).

Input can be provided publicly or in confidence. It can take whatever form is easiest for you – in writing, over the phone, via face-to-face meeting. Feedback is welcomed at any time but is most useful if received prior to or during the field audit to give auditors an opportunity to examine evidence while on site.

If you would like to provide input here are the steps you may take:

- Request a copy of the relevant FSC standards or download the standard from the Rainforest Alliance website here: <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry/documents/fscstd-30-010.pdf>
- Request a copy of previous audit report summaries (available to download here: <http://info.fsc.org/Detail?id=a0240000005vvssAAA>)
- Arrange to meet with an audit team member before, during or shortly after the fieldwork;
- Call and give comments verbally to Anita Neville, Representative and Communications Advisor for the Rainforest Alliance in Australia.
- Submit written comments by mail or email to Anita Neville.

Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing Gunns Ltd.

How to reach the Rainforest Alliance in Australia

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The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only the FSC and Rainforest Alliance staff. Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access Rainforest Alliance's Complaints, Appeals and Dispute resolution procedures at www.rainforest-alliance.org

Who

The Rainforest Alliance Audit Team will be led by Mr. Addis Tsehaye, (PhD & MSc Forestry) and will include Ms Malory Weston, Mr Lincoln Kern and Ms Anita Neville.

When and Where

The audit will commence in Western Australia on Thursday 13th June 2013. Mr Addis Tsehaye and another member of the audit team will conduct the following activities:

- Meetings with Gunns Ltd staff and contractors,
- Site visits of Gunns Ltd operations in Western Australia,
- Stakeholder meetings.

The audit team will meet in full in Tasmania on Monday 17th June and conduct the following activities:

- Meetings with Gunns Ltd staff and contractors,
- Site visits of Gunns Ltd operations in Tasmania,
- Stakeholder meetings
- Final audit briefing – presenting preliminary findings to Gunns Ltd managers and receivers.

Following the field audit the audit team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to Gunns Ltd and a minimum of two Rainforest Alliance reviewers. A public summary report will be made available on the FSC website once a certification decision is made.

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) accredits the Rainforest Alliance and this audit process must follow procedures that have been approved by the FSC.