

DRAX POWER LTD

Drax Power is Europe's largest power station. It operates as base load generation for the United Kingdom, delivering around 8% of the UK's power. Drax has progressively developed its ability to fire biomass. Drax has an established set of sustainability principles which guide its biomass procurement.



ASSIGNMENT SCOPE

Review the supplies of biomass to Drax against Drax own sustainability principles in order to advise Drax which suppliers are best placed to develop long term supply relationships and which need further support and advice in order to reliably deliver sustainable material.

FIVEBARGATE APPROACH

Experience from working with supply chains from well-to-wheels in biofuels meant that FiveBarGate was able to commission third party auditors to take an independent look at Drax suppliers and benchmark them against the sustainability principles, looking for objective evidence. FiveBarGate witnessed the audits to also provide immediate supply chain advice on how supply chain assurance systems can be developed in order to provide the necessarily high standards of objective evidence that third party auditors require.

By developing an objective scoring mechanism in parallel, Drax has been able to monitor performance on an ongoing basis over a number of years. This helps to identify suppliers that need more support with regards to objectively achieving all requirements of Drax sustainability assurance standard. It also helps identify suppliers that could perhaps be struggling to make any progress and those that may become preferred partners, because of their ability to demonstrate the provenance of their biomass supply.

CLIENT STATEMENT

"FiveBarGate is able to offer pragmatic and effective insights into our suppliers by helping them understand our deepest concerns about sustainability assurance. This is delivered professionally and has allowed us to develop our own systems where required, to meet the needs of our suppliers."

"FiveBarGate has brought a depth and breadth of experience that continue to help us work with our supply chains to assure ourselves and our stakeholders of the sustainability of the feed stocks we consume. The combination of practical knowledge of sustainability standards and hands on experience of supply chain practice uniquely offers insights into supply chains that help us develop lasting supplier partnerships."

Jason Woods – Biomass Procurement Manager.

OUTCOMES

Drax is well placed to continue sourcing sustainable feedstock for its developing biomass power business and to build its business in this area.

