



Gold Standard
for the Global Goals

FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: 12/11/2024

VERSION: 6.0

NEXT PLANNED UPDATE: 12/11/2026

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- [Deviations Approval Requirements and Procedures](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

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1| **General Guidelines**

1.1 | **Applicability**

- 1.1.1 | This form is to be completed for projects (project activities/PoAs/VPAs) seeking deviation or is/are at a risk of deviating from any [applicable requirements](#), GS4GG-specific requirements listed in the applicable [Methodologies](#) or any other deviations occurring in any of the various aspects of the project.
- 1.1.2 | Refer to the latest version of [Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures](#) for detailed information on the procedures and requirements.
- 1.1.3 | This form can be used in the following instances i.e.,
 - a. Deviation from GS4GG requirements and/or applicable methodologies prior to submission for certification with GS4GG.
 - b. Temporary changes to a certified project - which include changes from the registered monitoring plan, the applied methodologies or other standard documents - that are expected **not** to occur beyond a given monitoring period.
- 1.1.4 | For any permanent changes to a design certified project, the requirements set in [Design Change Approval Requirements and Procedures](#) shall be followed.

2| **Submission of deviation form**

- 2.1.1 | This form shall be submitted in Microsoft Word (.doc) format to Gold Standard at deviations@goldstandard.org
- 2.1.2 | Forms with incomplete/inaccurate information shall not be considered for review and shall be returned to the applicant.

3| **Implementation of deviation decision**

- 3.1.1 | The decision prescribed in this form shall be considered by the entity applying for deviation for further course of action.

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4| Decision summary

To be completed by Gold Standard

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVRQ-265
Date of decision	05/01/2026
Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved [No precondition to apply the deviation decision] <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally approved [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below] <input type="checkbox"/> Not approved [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary]

4.2 | Decision

4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The deviation request for extension of the timeline for completing validation until 30/06/2026 is approved.

4.2.2 | Directions for the project developer/CME, if applicable

The project developer shall note that the decision is based on the information provided in the deviation request form and only against the applicable standard requirement quoted in the form below by the project developer. The project developer shall comply with all other applicable standard requirements unless specifically mentioned in the deviation decision. The project developer shall document the deviation request, its implications, and GS' decision in the appropriate section of the project document.

4.2.3 | Directions for the Validation and Verification Body (VVB), if applicable

The validating VVB shall, through appropriate means at disposal, evaluate that the project's compliance with the above-mentioned conditions and provide VVB opinion in the validation report.

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

The review team shall check the information reported by the project developer and the VVB for appropriateness, accuracy and consistency.

4.3 | Applicability to other activities

Is this decision applicable to other projects under similar circumstances? ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
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¹ If this is marked yes, this means that any other project (PoA/VPA/PA) in similar situation may apply the decision of this deviation to their project as well. The project developer/VVB may quote this deviation decision in the relevant certification documents. This is relevant to only the projects which have already entered the certification cycle with GS4GG.

	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)	
<hr/>	

² If this is marked yes, it means the decision is valid to all the future projects which will enter the certification cycle with the similar situation. This is relevant to all the projects which are not yet design certified with GS4GG or have not submitted their documents for preliminary review yet.

5| Deviation Request Details

To be completed by the entity requesting deviation - (Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB)

5.1 | Submitted by

- Project developer
- CME
- VVB
- Other (specify...)

5.2 | Details of the entity and its representative submitting the form

Item	Information
Name ³ :	Chananda Homklinchan
Email ID ⁴ :	c.homklinchan@southpole.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	Swiss Carbon Value Ltd.
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

5.3 | Background information

Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project activity	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA GSXXXX	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA
GS ID	GS12437	GS XXXX GS XXXX	GS XXXX GS XXXX
Host country(ies)	Cambodia		
Project Title	Thai Wah Biogas WWT Project		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4427		
Scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale <input type="checkbox"/> Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>		

³ Name of the individual representing the entity requesting the deviation

⁴ Email ID for further correspondence related to the deviation request

⁵ The name of the entity requesting the deviation

Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Listed	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified project	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If other, specify here</i>
	07/12/2023	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>
Applied version of Standard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GS4GG			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Previous version of Gold Standard	Version no.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.2
Transition date, if applicable	From previous GS version to GS4GG		<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	
	From another standard to GS4GG		<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	
	Name of another standard	<input type="checkbox"/> CDM <input type="checkbox"/> Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here		
Applicable activity requirement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Community Services Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>Insert name here</i>			

5.4 | Project deviation history

Is there any deviation request(s) for the same project activity/PoA/VPA(s) that was submitted to GS previously? If yes, below information.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	Insert Text here
Status of the deviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected <input type="checkbox"/> Under review
Were there any findings (CL, CAR, FAR) raised during any certification step (preliminary review, design and/or performance review etc.) that are relevant to this deviation request?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Summary of the findings <i>Summary of the CL, CAR, FAR not more than 200 words. Include reference to document, page number</i>

6| Deviation detail

To be completed by the entity requesting deviation (Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB)

6.1 | Standard document reference

Standard document reference	Title	PRINCIPLES & REQUIREMENTS
	Version	V2.1
	Paragraph	para 5.1.1

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Extension of the timeline for completing validation	
Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)	<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent (e.g. deviation from requirements prior to submission for certification)
	The deviation is relevant only to the project validation timeline and its impact is limited to the design certification. It does not affect the project design or the subsequent monitoring period.	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	N/A
	End date	N/A
Summarise the changes	As per PRINCIPLES & REQUIREMENTS V2.1, paragraph 5.1.1(b), the project must achieve Gold Standard Certified Design status by successfully completing Validation (within two years of Listing) and a subsequent Design Review. Since the project was Listed on 07/02/2024, the validation deadline is 06/02/2026. This deviation request is being submitted to ask for an extension of this deadline.	
Reason for deviation	<p>The project has undergone onsite validation on 05/06/2025. Subsequently, the Thailand–Cambodia border conflict intensified, leading to open fire and border closure. The project is located in Oddar Meanchey Province, approximately 20 kilometers from the Thai border.</p> <p>The situation’s timeline is listed below.⁶</p> <p>3-5 June 2025: Cambodian troops moved towards the Emerald Triangle Sector, with Thailand responding in kind.</p> <p>14-18 June 2025: Cambodia mobilised long-range military assets to the border. A phone call between Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and Thai Prime Minister Paetongtarn was reportedly leaked during this period.</p> <p>23-25 June 2025: Trade restrictions and cross-border closures were imposed. Cambodia escalated tensions further by sending heavy munitions to the Preah Vihear and Oddar Meanchey provinces.</p>	

⁶ <https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/thailand-cambodia-conflict-legacy-politics-and-premeditated-escalation/> (last access 11/11/2025)

	<p>1-10 July 2025: Over 300 landmines were allegedly planted by Cambodian troops.</p> <p>15 July 2025: A Thai patrol in Chong Bok located two unexploded landmines.</p> <p>16-23 July 2025: Eight Thai soldiers sustained injuries in two separate landmine incidents.</p> <p>24 July 2025: Full-scale conflict erupted, with artillery and rockets fired from Cambodia. Thailand responded by deploying F-16 fighter jets.</p> <p>25-28 July 2025: The intense crossfire resulted in approximately 300,000 people being displaced on both sides of the border. Over 35 individuals were killed, and several more were injured.</p> <p>28 July 2025: Thailand and Cambodia agreed to a ceasefire.</p> <p>Despite an agreement to ceasefire, the border remained closed and therefore led to temporary closure of the starch factory in July 2025. The border closure and factory shutdown physically separated crucial staff. Essential personnel responsible for providing documentation, data verification, and signing off on validation reports—including site managers, technical staff, and finance officers—were likely inaccessible or diverted to managing the factory's emergency closure and employee welfare. In addition, much of the data required for final validation (e.g., operational logs, monitoring records, energy consumption data) is often stored physically or on local servers at the site. The lack of physical access to the closed factory meant the team could not retrieve, confirm, or cross-reference the necessary documentation, creating an immediate standstill. The situation may be considered as a force <i>majeure</i> event, which is unavoidable, external circumstances. As a result, there were barriers in communication and physical access which delays the validation finalizing and might affect the timeline in validation completion.</p>
<p>Proposed resolution</p>	<p>As the process of validation finalization has faced significant, unforeseen delays resulting from the escalation of the Thailand–Cambodia border conflict immediately following the onsite audit. Despite the subsequent agreement to a ceasefire, the sustained border closure and the resulting temporary shutdown of the starch factory (the project site) created a severe operational disruption that directly impeded the validation process.</p> <p>30 June 2026 is proposed as the new deadline for validation completion. The finalization process will be resumed immediately upon</p>

	<p>the full resolution of site access and security concerns. The proposed extension provides a realistic timeline to complete all remaining validation steps to ensure the accuracy, completeness and conservativeness while there will be no impact of the project design.</p>						
<p>Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?</p>	<p>Select the relevant area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Project design <input type="checkbox"/> Local stakeholder consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding principles <input type="checkbox"/> SDG assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Additionality <input type="checkbox"/> Applicability of methodology <input type="checkbox"/> Annual emission reduction volume <i>(if yes, fill the table below)</i> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th>Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td>XYZ tCO₂e</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, project cycle</p>	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation	XYZ tCO ₂ e	XYZ tCO ₂ e		
Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation						
XYZ tCO ₂ e	XYZ tCO ₂ e						
<p>Summary of the impact</p>	<p>Describe the impact of the deviation on each relevant aspect of the project as selected above. Please substantiate the impact assessment with relevant and verifiable data/information.</p>						

The deviation is due to unavoidable, external circumstances and will not have an impact on the integrity and conservativeness of the project. It may affect the timeline of the first Verification which must occur no later than two years after the project implementation date or Design Certification date, whichever is later. A validation delay effectively pushes back the Design Certification date, which then compresses the time available to complete the first verification.

6.3 | VVB information

<p>Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required?</p> <p><i>VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under Deviations Request Requirements and Procedures or request is submitted by the VVB.</i></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i></p>
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6.4 | VVB's assessment

The below information is to be completed by VVB, if applicable.

VVB's assessment of deviation request	Temporary deviation	
VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request	<p>VVB has checked the PD justification and found convincing.</p> <p>VVB would like to clarify that the applied deviation is out of control of PD. The deviation do not have any impact on the project monitoring, applied methodology and the additionality.</p>	
VVB recommendation	VVB recommend to approve the deviation.	
VVB details	VVB name:	4K Earth Science Pvt. Ltd.
	Auditor name(s):	Chetan Swaroop Sharma
	Email (s):	chetan@4kearthscience.com

6.5 | Documents:

6.5.1 | List of documents provided (*note that once a decision has been made by Gold Standard, this deviation form will be made public on the Gold Standard website. Kindly refrain from including any confidential information in the form.*)

Document 1. Travel Advisory – Border Safety Measures in Place Across Eastern and Northeastern Thailand

Document 2.

Document n.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NUMBER	RELEASE DATE	DESCRIPTION
6.0	12.11.2024	Editorial and structural changes to the template
5.0	11.04.2022	Additional information added: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- date of listing, design certification, transition- standard version- specific reference to a requirement deviated from- any previous deviations/design changes approved- Guidance on VVB opinion
4.0	14.01.2021	Editorial changes
3.0	16.07.2020	Editorial changes
2.0	03.05.2018	Editorial changes
1.0	01.07.2017	Initial adoption