



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.

Table of Content

1 General Guidelines.....	2
1.1 Applicability.....	2
2 Submission of deviation form	2
3 Implementation of deviation decision	2
4 Decision summary	4
4.1 General information.....	4
4.2 Decision.....	4
4.3 Applicability to other activities	4
5 Deviation Request Details.....	6
5.1 Submitted by.....	6
5.2 Details of the entity and its representative submitting the form	6
5.3 Background information.....	6
5.4 Project deviation history	7
6 Deviation detail	7
6.1 Standard document reference.....	7
6.2 Description of the deviation.....	7
6.3 VVB information.....	9
6.4 VVB’s assessment	9
6.5 Documents:	9

4| Decision summary

To be completed by Gold Standard

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVRQ-359
Date of decision	03/03/2026
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 Gold Standard Secretariat, having reviewed the request from TUV SUD America for an extension of the current approval period in order to conclude the re-approval process, and taking into account the precedent set by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on similar cases has decided to grant an extension of three months to the existing approval period.

Accordingly, the current approval, originally valid until 25 April 2026, is hereby extended and will now remain valid until 25 July 2026. This extension allows for sufficient time for the completion of the re-approval process.

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

NA

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

In accordance with the VVB requirements (section 7.4.5) if the VVB does not close its application within the period granted, 25 July 2026, the VVB is not entitled to sign new contracts with project developers until a decision regarding the status is made by Gold Standard.

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

NA

4.3 | Applicability to other activities

Is this decision applicable to other projects under similar circumstances? ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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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.

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

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 :	Nina Pinette
Email ID ⁴ :	nina.pinette@tuvsud.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	TÜV SÜD America Inc
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>N/A to this request</i>

5.3 | Background information

Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Project activity	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA GSXXXX	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA
GS ID	N/A to this request		
Host country(ies)	N/A to this request		
Project Title	N/A to this request		
Registry link	N/A to this request		
Scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale <input type="checkbox"/> Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>		
Certification Status and corresponding	<input type="checkbox"/> Listed	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified project <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>If other, specify 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

date of latest status	N/A to this request			
Applied version of Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> GS4GG N/A to this request			
	<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		dd/mm/yyyy	
	From another standard to GS4GG		dd/mm/yyyy	
	Name of another standard	<input type="checkbox"/> CDM <input type="checkbox"/> Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here		
Applicable activity requirement	<input 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 Insert name here			

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 type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	N/A to this request	
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 N/A to this request	

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	VALIDATION/VERIFICATION BODY REQUIREMENTS
	Version	V3.0
	Paragraph	9.2.2

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Request for extension to deadline to submit application for VVB re-approval
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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)	
	Insert Text here (if required) to support the selection			
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	N/A to this request		
	End date	N/A to this request		
Summarise the changes	<p>Section 9.2.2. of the Validation/Verification Body Requirements v3.0 states "GS-VVB status is granted for a period of 36 months from the date of approval, whereupon the applicant may re-apply for approval. Prior to expiration, the GS-VVB shall re-submit the full set of information, as per 9.4.8 below of this document, updated as required for re-approval. An application for re-approval shall be submitted no later than 8 weeks prior to the end of the 36-month period."</p> <p>TÜV SÜD America's current approval as a VVB with the Gold Standard is valid until 25 April 2026. Eight weeks prior to this is 28 February 2026. We are requesting an extension to re-submit the full set of information required for re-approval to 20 March 2026.</p>			
Reason for deviation	We have experienced delays in compiling the required documentation for re-approval due to (1) internal staffing transitions that temporarily redirected resources, and (2) additional time needed to aggregate certain administrative and accreditation-related materials. These delays affect only the timing of the submission and do not impact the VVB's technical competence, accreditation status, or conformance with applicable Gold Standard requirements.			
Proposed resolution	TÜV SÜV America Inc will submit documentation required for reapproval to Gold Standard by March 20. We request that our GS-VVB status remain active during this period to avoid disruptions to ongoing validation/verification activities for project developers.			
Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?	Select the relevant area: <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>			
	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation		Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation	
	N/A to this request			
<input type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, please specify...				

Summary of the impact	N/A to this request
Insert text here	

6.3 | VVB information

<p>Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required? <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> <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	N/A to this request	
VVB’s assessment of impact of deviation request		
VVB recommendation		
VVB details	VVB name:	
	Auditor name(s):	
	Email (s):	

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.
- 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