

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-409
Date of decision	07/05/2026
Decision	☐ Approved [No precondition to apply the deviation decision] ☒ Conditionally approved [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below] ☐ Not approved [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary]

4.2 | Decision

4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The deviation request is Conditionally approved. As the evidence provided by the CME does not sufficiently demonstrate that all GS stakeholder categories were invited and conducted in accordance with the [Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements](#), the CME must conduct a supplementary stakeholder consultation in compliance where the missing stakeholder group are asked for their inputs on the project. The mode of communication and the feedback received shall be documented along with the changes led to the project design. The CME must submit additional documentation of the invitations and consultation process to the VVB for validation.

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

The CME must conduct the stakeholder consultation following the [Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements](#).

The CME 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 CME. The CME shall comply with all other applicable standard requirements until unless specifically mentioned in the deviation decision. The CME 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 VVB must provide their opinion on the supplementary stakeholder consultation, that comments were received and their impact on the project design. VVB shall confirm if after the supplementary consultation, all stakeholder groups were appropriately covered.

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

N/A

4.3 | Applicability to other activities

Is this decision applicable to other projects under similar circumstances? ¹	☐ Yes ☐ No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	☐ Yes ☐ No
Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)	

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.

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 :	Mr. Manish Dabkara
Email ID ⁴ :	registry@enkingint.org
Organisation: ⁵ :	EKI Energy Services Limited
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	☒ Yes ☐ No

5.3 | Background information

Type	☐ Project activity	☒ PoA GSXXXX	☒ VPA	
GS ID	GSXXXX	GS 23217	GS 23218	
Host country(ies)	India			
Project Title	Metafin-Off Grid Solar Milling Plants for Household Programme			
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4966			
Scale	☒ Microscale (GS) ☐ Small scale ☐ Large scale ☐ Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>			
Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	☒ Listed	☐ Certified design	☐ Certified project	☐ Other <i>If other, specify here</i>
	19/05/2025	dd/mm/yyyy	dd/mm/yyyy	dd/mm/yyyy

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

Applied version of Standard	☒ GS4GG			
	☐ Previous version of Gold Standard	Version no.		
		☐ 1.0	☐ 1.1	☐ 1.2
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	☐ CDM ☐ Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here		
Applicable activity requirement	☐ Renewable Energy Activity Requirements ☒ Community Services Activity Requirements ☐ Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements ☐ 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.			☐ Yes ☐ No
Reference number	Insert Text here		
Status of the deviation	☐ Approved	☐ Rejected	☐ 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?	☐ Yes ☐ 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	STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
	Version	V2.1
	Paragraph	para 3.4.2

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Deviation related to gap of less than 30 day between invite and conduct of physical stakeholders meeting	
	☒ Temporary	☐ Permanent

Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation		
	Temporary Deviation is requested to provide exemption from 30 days gap between invite and conduct of physical stakeholders meeting.	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	Dd/mm/yyyy
	End date	Dd/mm/yyyy
Summarise the changes	Temporary Deviation is requested to provide exemption from compliance with para 3.4.2 of Stakeholder Consultation & Engagement requirements, Ver 2.1	
Reason for deviation	The CME invited local stakeholders to participate in the stakeholder consultation process of the project through invitation letter & calls on 15/9/2024. However, the Stakeholder Consultation meeting was conducted on 04/10/2024. As per para 3.4.2 of Stakeholder Consultation & Engagement requirements, Ver 2.1, The project developer shall invite the stakeholders at least 30 days before the physical meeting. However, in the project case physical stakeholders meeting was conducted 10 days earlier to required timelines of 30 days. The reason for this early conduct of meeting are as follows: • The project involves installation of 687 rooftop solar units across various flour milling Plants (Atta Chaki) in different districts & villages of Uttar Pradesh. As most of units are located at remote locations throughout the various villages & district of Uttar Pradesh State, sending invitation letters to individual user was not possible & also due to remote locations & distance between two units, physical visit by CME representative to handover invitation to individual user was also difficult. The approach adopted for invitation is provided below. This was to ensure that all relevant stakeholders are aware of the scheduled consultation. All efforts were made to ensure maximum participation for the stakeholder meeting. ○ Each District (75) in Uttar Pradesh state is divided into multiple zones and each zone has multiple technology suppliers (Franchise) empaneled with CME. Each Franchise are personally connected to various end users (flour milling Plants, Atta Chaki), wherein they have supplied/installed rooftop solar systems. ○ Hence, CME has sent invitation via Letters/calls to the franchise informing them about the objective, participation requirement and date/venue for stakeholder consultation meeting. The conduct of multiple meeting across 75 districts would have been difficult due to logistics and financial constraints. Hence, one central location (District Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh) was decided to conduct this meeting.	

- Each Franchise unit was further advised to inform each individual users under their jurisdiction via call to inform about date, time & venue for conduct of this meeting and importance of attending this meeting.
- Although meeting was planned to be conducted in end week of Oct 2024, due to remote locations of individual end users, upcoming by-elections in Uttar Pradesh (<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/uttar-pradesh/eci-announces-bypolls-for-nine-assembly-seats-in-uttar-pradesh/article68757814.ece>) and cropping season in Uttar Pradesh, all the franchise representative requested to conduct this meeting in early oct month only.
- Also, as location of users are very interior & remote, hence CME & Franchise are also required to arrange transportation logistics for each individual user, who has shown interest to participate in this meeting.
- Also, decision to delay this meeting would have further postponed it to end of Dec 2024 month.

Considering the above scenario & request by franchise representatives, CME has decided to conduct physical stakeholder consultation meeting on 04 Oct 2024.

Reason for Delayed Deviation request

Though it was a deviation from the requirement to invite the stakeholder before 30 days period, there was genuine reasons as mentioned above behind not meeting the requirement. The CME was under the impression that the justification of the delay in sending invitation could be clarified to the VVB by including information on the same in the PoA-DD and VPA-DD. The project was accepted at preliminary review without highlighting the need to seek deviation which is evident from the fact that there is no FAR raised during preliminary review on the issue.

This came into notice when the VVB raised the issue during technical review round at the time of validation of the project after which the deviation request was sought to the registry. Subsequently, a request for deviation is submitted to the registry.

	As explained above, the early conduct of physical stakeholder consultation meeting was a temporary situation-based deviation. Furthermore, project has also completed the audit findings and in early stage of registry submission, hence an exemption can be provided to the project case				
Proposed resolution	Exemption for compliance with para 3.4.2 of Stakeholder Consultation & Engagement requirements, Ver 2.1				
Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?	Select the relevant area: ☐ Project design ☒ Local stakeholder consultation ☐ Safeguarding principles ☐ SDG assessment ☐ Regulatory compliance ☐ Additionality ☐ Applicability of methodology ☐ 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>3,762 tCO₂e</td><td>3,762 tCO₂e</td></tr> </tbody> </table> ☐ any other matrix, please specify...	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation	3,762 tCO ₂ e	3,762 tCO ₂ e
Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation				
3,762 tCO ₂ e	3,762 tCO ₂ e				
Summary of the impact	The above deviation will not cause any impact upon the data quality or attract any potential risk on GS related to any issuance or any other material impact affecting the quality of the project and thus no potential risk is attributed to GS Project activity in particular. The deviation requested adheres to the Principles and Requirements set forth by GS4GG and complies with: • Environmental Integrity- The GSVER's generated from the project activity are not overestimated as a result of deviation and conservativeness are ensured. • Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals- SDG contributions that the project is designed to achieve are in line with GS4GG requirements and the above deviation does not have any potential impact upon the certified SDG's claimed during the entire crediting period of the project activity. • Safeguarding Principles and requirements- The deviation does not create any impact upon the safeguarding principles and requirements set forth by GS4GG • Compliance with Host Country Regulations- The project does not create any conflict with Host Country regulations and all the host country regulations are followed. Thus, Kind request to approve deviation.				
No Impact Envisaged					

6.3 | VVB information

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>	Yes ☐ No ☐ <i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i>
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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	Please confirm the nature of deviation.	
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. Local Stakeholder Invitation Letter

Document 2. LSC Attendance sheet

Document 3. LSC Minutes of Meeting

Document 4: Banner Copy & Pics of LSC Meeting

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: - 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