

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](#)

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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-412
Date of decision	17/05/2026
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 not approved as suppressed demand cannot be applied in the large-scale project.

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

N/A

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

N/A

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)	
NA	

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 :	ANANTHA KARTHIK RAJAGOPALAN
Email ID ⁴ :	anantha@upenergygroup.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	UPENERGY GROUP
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	GS 23257	GS XXXX GS XXXX	GS XXXX GS XXXX
Host country(ies)	The Republic of Ghana		
Project Title	Ghana Household Carbon Reduction Programme (GHCPR)		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/5043		
Scale	☐ Microscale (GS) ☐ Small scale ☒ Large scale ☐ Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>		
Certification Status and corresponding	☒ Listed	☐ Certified design	☐ Certified project ☐ 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	28/09/2025	dd/mm/yyyy	dd/mm/yyyy	dd/mm/yyyy
Applied version of Standard	☒ GS4GG ☐ Previous version of Gold Standard			
	Version no.			
	☐ 1.0	☐ 1.1	☐ 1.2	☐ 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	☐ 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 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.			☐ 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 Summary of the CL, CAR, FAR not more than 200 words. Include reference to document, page number		

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	Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply
	Version	1.0
	Paragraph	3.4.2

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Application of the Suppressed Demand Scenario for Water Purification Systems (WPS) component under a Large-Scale Project Activity	
Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	☐ Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)	☒ 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	Dd/mm/yyyy
	End date	Dd/mm/yyyy
Summarise the changes	The purpose of this project activity is to provide residential users in Ghana with energy-efficient household technologies, namely Improved Cookstoves (ICS) and Water Purification Systems (WPS). This standalone project activity is designed as a large-scale project. The Project Developer (PD) intends to apply the suppressed demand baseline scenario exclusively to the Water Purification Systems (WPS) distributed to Ghanaian households under this project. In accordance with the applied GS methodology <i>Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply</i> v1.0, which permits the use of suppressed demand only for small and microscale project activities, the PD will ensure that the Emission Reductions (ERs) attributable to the WPS component remain within the micro-scale threshold of 10,000 tCO₂e per year throughout implementation. The application of the micro-scale threshold and suppressed demand baseline scenario is limited only to the WPS component, which is implemented under the Gold Standard methodology "Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0." The ICS component, in contrast, will not apply a suppressed demand baseline and will follow the requirements of the large-scale project as per the applied methodology TDDTEC-RECH v4.0.	
Reason for deviation	As part of this project activity, the PD recently conducted a baseline survey to evaluate household access to safe drinking water in the targeted regions of Ghana, supported by microbial water quality testing. The survey aimed to establish the extent of access to safe drinking water and to identify the need for household-level water treatment interventions. The results are stark: Around 88% of the target population in Ghana consume contaminated water with fecal coliform bacteria (<i>E.coli</i>) regardless of whether the source is classified as improved or unimproved and rest only 12% of the population has access to safe drinking water. Moreover, just 5.6% of households treat water through boiling, while 94.4% do not treat or boil water at all due to prohibitive costs.	

	These findings align with national data from the Ghana Statistical Service (GLSS7)⁶, which show that 57.6% of households do not treat their drinking water. Among those that attempt treatment (around 30%), many rely on rudimentary and ineffective methods such as sedimentation or cloth filtration, which fail to ensure safety from harmful microbes. Boiling is practiced by only 4.9% of households, constrained possibly by lack of economic resources, and fewer than 5% of households use proven treatment methods. UNICEF data⁷ further underscore the severity of the issue, indicating that 93% of households consume untreated water, leaving 76% at risk of ingesting water contaminated with fecal matter. Against this backdrop, while the methodology Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0 restricts the use of suppressed demand to small and micro-scale activities, the PD seeks approval to apply this baseline scenario within a large-scale project context. The PD commits to ensuring that emission reductions attributable to the Water Purification Systems (WPS) component remain strictly within the micro-scale threshold of 10,000 tCO₂e per year throughout implementation. This deviation is justified given the severe public health risks posed by unsafe drinking water within the project boundary. By facilitating the distribution of Water Purification Systems (WPS) to Ghanaian households, the project will directly expand access to safe drinking water and deliver measurable health benefits. In doing so, it will substantially reduce household exposure to waterborne diseases and address a critical gap in basic services for the targeted communities.
Proposed resolution	The application of the micro-scale threshold and the suppressed demand baseline scenario to the WPS component of this large-scale project is undertaken in alignment with GS4GG Principles and Requirements, by ensuring that the resulting ERs attributable solely to the WPS component will be capped to ensure they do not exceed the micro-scale threshold of 10,000 tCO₂e per year; accordingly, the risk of over-crediting is mitigated. All ER calculations and monitoring approaches will be implemented in strict accordance with the requirements of the applied methodology.
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 (if yes, fill the table below)

⁶ <https://www.scribd.com/document/700436968/GLSS7-MAIN-REPORT-FINAL> last accessed on 16/04/2026

⁷ <https://www.unicef.org/ghana/water#programme-challenge> last accessed on 18/04/2026

	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th><th>Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation				
Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation						
	☐ any other matrix, please specify...						
Summary of the impact	This standalone project activity is classified as a large-scale project and incorporates multiple technologies, namely ICS and WPS. Upon approval of this deviation request, the PD will apply the suppressed demand baseline scenario exclusively to the WPS component PD confirms the following with respect to compliance with the applied Gold Standard methodology, "Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply v1.0": 1. The emission reductions (ERs) attributable solely to the WPS component will not exceed the micro-scale threshold of 10,000 tCO₂e per year; therefore, there is no risk of over-crediting. 2. All ER calculations and monitoring approaches will be conducted in full accordance with the requirements of the applied methodology. 3. All other relevant methodological requirements will be fully complied with throughout the project implementation period.						
Insert text here							

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):	
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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: - 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