

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-416
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 request for a delay in water quality testing (parameter SDWS 18) for the first monitoring year of project GS12246 is conditionally approved. Given that water quality testing was not conducted within the required timeframe, and in the absence of test results confirming water safety during the first monitoring period, the CME is requested to apply a conservative adjustment to emission reductions for the non-compliance period. This adjustment should account for the risk that water quality may not have met the required standards.

The VVB shall verify the proposed adjustment factor and provide its opinion.

The CME shall ensure that the delayed water quality tests are completed at the earliest opportunity in 2026 and that full compliance with the SDWS 18 monitoring frequency is achieved from the second monitoring year onward.

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

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

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

The review team shall check the information reported by the CME 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	☐ 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 :	Stefano Rota Martir
Email ID ⁴ :	S.rota@southpole.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	Carbonsink group s.r.l. A Southple company
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 XXXX	GS12246
Host country(ies)	Mozambique		
Project Title	GS12102 VPA-3 Supply of safe water in rural areas of Tete province, Mozambique		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4467		
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 25/09/2023	☐ Certified design dd/mm/yyyy	☐ Certified project dd/mm/yyyy
			☐ Other <i>If other, specify here</i> 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	METHODOLOGY FOR EMISSION REDUCTIONS FROM SAFE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY
	Version	V1.0
	Paragraph	4.1 SDWS 18

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Water quality tests carried out late in the first year of the project	
	☒ Temporary	☐ Permanent

Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	This delay is only relevant to the first year of the project (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	02/07/2024						
	End date	01/07/2025						
Summarise the changes	As required by the methodology "METHODOLOGY FOR EMISSION REDUCTIONS FROM SAFE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY v1.0" in paragraph 4.1, the SDWS 18 parameter must be monitored on an annual basis. However, during the first year of the project, it was not possible to carry out the water quality tests within the timeframe specified by the methodology.							
Reason for deviation	As required by the methodology adopted by the project, water quality tests should be carried out annually. Consequently, during the first monitoring period, the project developer took steps to carry out the tests in accordance with the methodology's guidelines. This engagement process began with the necessary lead time to meet the timelines; however, difficulties were encountered in engaging an accredited laboratory. Furthermore, due to the unavailability of the laboratory engaged in 2025, the analyses were postponed to 2026, as confirmed by the statement signed by the laboratory itself in the attached document 'GS12246_laboratory_availability 2026' in attachment.							
Proposed resolution	To avoid encountering project certification issues, the project developer is requesting an exemption from GS regarding the timelines set by GS for the monitoring of SDWS 18, specifically for the first year of the project. Indeed, for the second year of monitoring, the tests will be carried out in accordance with the timelines planned prior to this initial delay, which is not attributable to the project developer.							
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" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #00a0c0; color: white;"> <th style="width: 50%;">Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th> <th style="width: 50%;">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> ☐ any other matrix, please specify...		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							
Summary of the impact	The deviation has no negative impact on the project's safeguarding principles, stakeholder consultations, or regulatory compliance, as the water supply remains active. SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and							

	SDG 13 (Climate Action) are maintained since the infrastructure is functional and water quality testing is currently underway to verify safety standards. The delay is purely regarding monitoring timelines and does not alter the project's additionality or basic design.
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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.

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