

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-422
Date of decision	08/05/2026
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 Gold Standard Secretariat, having reviewed the request from VKU for Renewable Energy 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 20 June 2026, is hereby extended and will now remain valid until 20 September 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

N/A

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, until 20 September 2026:

- Projects submitted for design certification and performance certification before the end of the approval period, shall be reviewed as usual
- Validation and verification services contracted before the end of the approval period, can be performed as usual. However, should the validation/verification report be submitted after the end of the approval period, the design/performance certification may only commence after the VVB's re-approval is confirmed by Gold Standard.
- The VVB may not sign new validation/verification contracts without valid approval (i.e. in the period between the end of the approval period and the date of re-approval confirmation)

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

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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 :	Dr. Vikas Kumar Aharwal
Email ID ⁴ :	vikas.aharwal@vkucertification.com
Organisation: ⁵ :	VKU Certification Private 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 GSXXXX	GS XXXX GS XXXX	GS XXXX GS XXXX
Host country(ies)			
Project Title			
Registry link			
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	dd/mm/yyyy	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	To Expand validity of our accreditation as a Validation and Verification Body with the Gold Standard
	Version	
	Paragraph	

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Extension of deadline of Re-approval of our application for validity of Accreditation							
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	Describe the deviation requested from applicable rules/requirements. Please include all relevant information in support of the request. Refer to latest version of Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures for requirements and guidelines							
Reason for deviation	to ensure continuity of your approval status and to avoid any disruption or delay in continuing to provide validation and verification services.							
Proposed resolution	Deviation Request allow the VVB to obtain additional time (3 extra months from approval validity) to complete and close the re-approval application. This is important given that the average timeline for closing the applications is approximately three to four months.							
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>XYZ tCO₂e</td> <td>XYZ tCO₂e</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		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						
☐ any other matrix, please specify...								
Summary of the impact								
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.								
Insert text here								

6.3 | VVB information

Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required?	Yes ☐ No ☐ <i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i>
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VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under [Deviations Request Requirements and Procedures](#) or request is submitted by the VVB.

6.4 | VVB's assessment

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

VVB's assessment of deviation request	For Accreditation validity	
VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request		
VVB recommendation		
VVB details	VVB name:	VKU Certification Private Limited
	Auditor name(s):	Dr. Vikas Kumar Aharwal (Founder and Director)
	Email (s):	vikas.aharwal@vkucertification.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. Deviation Request Form

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