FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: **20/05/2026**
VERSION: **6.1**
NEXT PLANNED UPDATE: **15/05/2028**

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 help@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 Secretariat

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVRQ-463
Date of decision	31/08/2026
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 required. Gold Standard accepts the Baseline Fuel Consumption Test (B-KPT) and Project Fuel Consumption Test (P-KPT) conducted prior to the first verification. The CME shall note that the text "At the start of crediting period (fixed for one crediting period)" in BGTA 20 means the Baseline Fuel Consumption could be fixed for the whole crediting period.

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

[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]	☐ Yes ☒ No
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] :	Muralidhar Nukarapu
Email ID[4] :	murali@sowandreap.in
Organisation:[5]:	Sow & Reap Agro Pvt Ltd.
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 13131* *GS XXXX*	*GS 13132* *GS XXXX*
Host country(ies)	India		
Project Title	Sow & Reap Agro Pvt Ltd Clean Cooking Programme in India GS13131 Sow & Reap Agro Pvt Ltd Clean Cooking Programme in India-VPA 1		
Registry link	**https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4915** **https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/4914**		
Scale	☐ Microscale (GS) ☒ Small scale ☐ Large scale ☐ Other, if applicable please specify below *Insert text here*		

[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

Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	☒ Listed	☐ Certified design[6]	☐ Certified project[7]	☐ Other *If other, specify here*
	07/01/2024	*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 ☐ Agriculture Activity Requirements ☐ Blue Carbon and Freshwater Wetlands Activity Requirements ☐ Engineered removals 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] Design certification date
[7] Date of first issuance approval by Gold Standard

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 animal manure management and biogas use for thermal energy generation
	Version	V1.1
	Paragraph	Data/ Parameter Table BGTA 20 & section 4.1.12

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	*Exemption to conduct KPT for baseline and project fuel consumption before the first verification*	
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)
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	Dd/mm/yyyy
	End date	Dd/mm/yyyy
	☒ NA	
Summarize the changes	*The applied GS methodology, Methodology for Animal Manure Management and Biogas Use for Thermal Energy Generation, v1.1, specifies in sections 4.1.12 and 4.1.15 that the baseline fuel consumption test and project fuel consumption test shall be conducted once ex-ante before the first verification.* *Whereas under the Data/Parameter ID BGTA 20 under the "any comment" it is mentioned "at the start of crediting period". This statement is not consistent with the requirements mentioned in the section 4.1.12 and 4.1.15.* *Based on the requirements specified in Section 4.1.12 and 4.1.15, the CME planned to conduct the KPT prior to the first verification. Recently, during the GS Design Review, a finding was raised indicating that the baseline KPT should have been conducted at the start of the crediting period and the CME was requested to seek a deviation.* *As the KPT was not conducted at the start of the crediting period due to the interpretation of the methodology sections mentioned above, the CME requests approval of this deviation to allow the Baseline Fuel Consumption Test conducted prior to the first verification to be accepted for determining the average yearly baseline fuel consumption for the crediting period.*	

<table>
<tr><td>Reason for deviation</td><td>The deviation is requested as the CME referred the methodological requirements in conjunction with Section 4.1.12 and section 4.1.15, which explicitly states that the fuel consumption test shall be completed once ex-ante before the first verification. Based on this reference, the KPT was planned for and conducted prior to the first verification rather than at the start of the crediting period. The deviation therefore relates solely to the timing of the KPT as per the finding raised during the design review.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Proposed resolution</td><td>The CME requests to provide exemption to conduct KPT before the first verification in compliance with the methodological criteria for determining the average yearly baseline fuel consumption (BGTA 20). The KPT will be conducted following the methodological requirements, and the resulting baseline fuel consumption values will be used for the emission reduction calculations for the monitoring period.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?</td><td>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)

<table><tr><th>Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th><th>Annual emission reduction/ removal after applying deviation</th></tr><tr><td>XYZ tCO_2e</td><td>XYZ tCO_2e</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>☐ any other matrix, please specify…
☒ NA</td></tr>
<tr><td>Summary of the impact</td><td>The deviation does not impact the project's design, local stakeholder consultation, safeguarding principles, SDG assessment, regulatory compliance, or additionality.</td></tr>
</table>

6.3 | VVB information

Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required? *VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under Deviations Request Requirements and Procedures or request is submitted by the VVB.*	Yes ☐ No ☒ *If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.*

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
6.1	15.05.2026	Editorial and structural changes to the template
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