

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

The Gold Standard Foundation
International Environment House 2
Chemin de Ballexert 7-9
1219 Châtelaine Geneva, Switzerland
Tel +41 22 788 70 80
Email help@goldstandard.org

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	DEVREQ-92
Date of decision	17/03/2025
Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved [No precondition to apply the deviation decision] <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally approved [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below] <input type="checkbox"/> Not approved [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary]

4.2 | Decision

4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The request for temporary deviation is approved, as monitoring the number of swine using daily auto-tracking devices with electronic ear tags is expected to provide more accurate data. Additionally, monitoring younger age groups (Nursery and Growing phases) will yield a conservative estimate for the average animal weight.

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

The project developer shall document the deviation and its decision in the monitoring report for the applicable monitoring period.

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

The verifying VVB shall cross-check the information provided by the project developer and determine compliance with the deviation decision. The same shall also be reported in the applicable verification report.

...

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

The reviewer shall review the information reported by PD and VVB and determine if its consistent and accurate.

4.3 | Applicability to other activities

Is this decision applicable to other projects under similar circumstances? ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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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	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)	
N/A	

5 | Deviation Request Details

5.1 | Submitted by

- ☒ Project developer
☐ CME
☐ VVB
☐ Other

5.2 | Details of the entity and its representative submitting the form

Item	Information
Name ³ :	Joanna Zhu
Email ID ⁴ :	yanan.zhu@profitcarbon.com
Organisation: ⁵	Profit Carbon Environmental Energy Technology (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

5.3 | Background information

Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project activity	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA GSXXXX	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA
GS ID	GS 11674	NA	NA
Host country(ies)	People's Republic of China		
Project Title	Dongrui Animal Manure Management System GHG Mitigation Project in Heyuan City		
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/3636		

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.

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

Scale	<input type="checkbox"/> Microscale (GS) <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large scale <input type="checkbox"/> Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>											
Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	<input type="checkbox"/> Listed NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified design NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project 31/01/2023	<input type="checkbox"/> Other NA								
Applied version of Standard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GS4GG <input type="checkbox"/> Previous version of Gold Standard											
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Version no.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1.0</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1.1</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1.2</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 2.2</td> </tr> </table>				Version no.				<input type="checkbox"/> 1.0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1.2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.2
Version no.												
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1.2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.2									
Transition date, if applicable	From previous GS version to GS4GG		NA									
	From another standard to GS4GG		NA									
	Name of another standard		<input type="checkbox"/> CDM <input type="checkbox"/> Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here									
Applicable activity requirement	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy Activity Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Services Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> 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.			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Reference number	NA		
Status of the deviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Summary of the findings NA		

6 | Deviation detail

6.1 | Standard document reference

Standard document reference	Title	Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures
	Version	Version 2.0
	Paragraph	Para 1.1.1

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Temporary changes for monitoring N_{LT} for market swine and sampling of W_{site}	
Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)	<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent (e.g. deviation from requirements prior to submission for certification)
	NA	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	01/11/2023
	End date	31/10/2024
Summarise the changes	<p>As described in the monitoring report for the 2nd monitoring period (01/11/2022 to 31/10/2023), all market swine and breeding swine at Lianping Nongmu Swine Farm and Zijin Nongye Swine Farm were scheduled to be sold and replaced between October 2023 and November 2023. This was part of the New Breeding Swine Introduction Plan implemented at these two farms. The specific process is as follows:</p> <p>To Lianping Nongmu swine farm, only all the marketing swine were sold in October 2023 and new breeding swine for market was introduced in batches since 1 November 2023. And the original breeding swine had been completely emptied from 1 November to 5 November and multiple batches of new breeding swine for breeding swine were introduced since November 15, 2023.</p> <p>To Zijin Nongye swine farm, all the swine including marketing swine and breeding swine were sold in October 2023. It began to introduce new breeding swine including marketing swine and breeding swine in batches since November 1, 2023.</p> <p>According to the operation record of these two swine farms in this 3rd monitoring period, about 30 days of marketing swine and about 50 days of breeding swine were introduced.</p> <p>In the registered PDD, the annual average number of animal of type LT (N_{LT}) for Market swine was calculated as per Option 1 (Equation (15)) of ACM0010, i.e. $N_{LT} = N_{da,LT} * \left(\frac{N_{p,LT}}{365}\right)$. However, the number of market swine sold ($N_{p,LT}$) in this 3rd monitoring period does not reach the same scale as before at the initial stage due to the replacement of swine in both two farms. Therefore, the calculated N_{LT} cannot truly reflect the actual number of livestock if using equation 15 of ACM0010. Since each swine involved in this project has a unique electronic ear tag. This electronic ear tag can be connected to the Data Collection System (DCS), which can store and read information. The technicians in farms can monitor and record the number of swine through the auto tracking devices of electronic ear tag daily. Therefore, during the 3rd monitoring period, the calculation of N_{LT} for market swine was requested to change by using Option 2 (Equation (16)) of ACM0010 i.e. $N_{LT} = \frac{\sum_1^{365} N_{AA,LT}}{365}$. However, the</p>	

	<p>sales data of marketing swine began to stabilize since the subsequent month of this 3rd monitoring period and N_{LT} for market swine can be recalculated as per Option 1 (Equation (15)) as described in PDD during next verification period. Therefore, it belongs to a temporary change to the registered monitoring plan and it will not have any impact on the next monitoring period.</p> <p>Similarly, according to the methodology" ACM0010" GHG emission reductions from manure management systems (Version 08.0)", each defined livestock population should be classified into a minimum of three age categories: Nursery phase, Growing phase, and Mature phase, and the average monthly weight of the swine in the farm (W_{site}) needed to be sampled based on three age groups. However, in the 3rd monitoring period, both of the marketing swine and breeding swine in these two farms started growing from nursery phase due to replacement. Therefore, during the initial stage in 3rd monitoring period, the three age groups defined in the PDD had not yet formed, only one or two age groups existed during the first few months of this 3rd monitoring period: From the 10th month of this 3rd monitoring period, the breeding swine population gradually returned to the three age groups defined in the PDD and ACM0010, while the marketing swine population had already returned to these three age groups from the 5th month.</p> <p>Therefore, due to the fact that the two swine farms only have one or two age groups in the early stage, the sampling of W_{site} will only be conducted in these one or two age groups, and the sampling quantity will still be based on the specified age group defined in PDD.</p> <p>And the sampling of W_{site} was temporarily based on the one or two age groups until the three age groups were formed, and the average monthly weight of the swine in the farm (W_{site}) would be calculated based on the one or two age groups (Nursery phase and Growing phase) which will result a lower emission reduction due to the weight of the swine was lighter in Nursery phase and Growing phase than Mature phase.</p> <p>Therefore, it belongs to a temporary change to the applied methodologies and registered monitoring plan and it will not have any impact on the next monitoring period.</p> <p>All of the above temporary changes involved deviations in monitoring methods for N_{LT} for market swine and sampling of W_{site} due to swine replacement in two farms, comply with section 1.1.1 in the Deviation Requirements and Procedures (Version 2.0). And the monitoring method for marketing swine and sampling of W_{site} in other six swine farms still comply with the registered monitoring plan.</p>
Reason for deviation	<p>Due to the swine replacement conducted in these two swine farms, the number of market swine sold ($N_{p,LT}$) in this 3rd monitoring period does not reach the same scale as before at the initial stage and no three age groups of swine can be produced as per registered PDD and applied methodology. Therefore, the temporary changes in this 3rd monitoring methods for N_{LT} for market swine and sampling of W_{site} should be requested. These changes are in line with the Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures (Version 2.0), as they represent temporary deviations from the registered monitoring plan and applied methodologies and are not expected to occur beyond the current monitoring period.</p>

Proposed resolution	<p>To address the temporary deviations in this 3rd monitoring period, as for N_{LT} for market swine, it would be calculated using Option 2 (Equation (16)) of ACM0010, instead of the original Option 1. The technicians in farms can monitor and record the number of swine through the auto tracking devices of electronic ear tag daily. As for W_{site}, the sampling of W_{site} was temporarily based on the two age groups during the first few months (From the 10th month of this 3rd monitoring period, the breeding swine population gradually returned to the three age groups defined in the PDD and ACM0010, while the marketing swine population had already returned to these three age groups from the 5th month) of this 3rd monitoring period until the three age groups were formed, which can result a lower emission reduction due to the weight of the swine was lighter in Nursery phase and Growing phase than Mature phase (According to the ER spreadsheet, the higher the W_{site}, the higher the emission reductions). It is conservative.</p> <p>Although there were temporary changes for the above two monitoring parameters during the third monitoring period, the monitoring process of the above two parameters still meets the requirements ACM0010.</p>								
Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?	<p>Select the relevant area:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Project design</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local stakeholder consultation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding principles</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SDG assessment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory compliance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additionality</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Applicability of methodology</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual emission reduction volume <i>(if yes, fill the table below)</i></p> <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> <tr> <td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> any other matrix, please specify...</p>	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	NA								

The temporary changes in this 3rd monitoring period only involved monitoring methods for N_{LT} for market swine and sampling of W_{site} . It will not cause any impact on the project design, local stakeholder consultation, safeguarding principles, SDG assessment, regulatory compliance, additionality, applicability of methodology and ex-ante annual emission reductions.

6.3 | VVB information

<p>Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required?</p> <p><i>VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under Deviations Request Requirements and</i></p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i></p>
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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	<p>Based on above descriptions from PD, VVB confirmed that there is a temporary change from the certified monitoring plan.</p> <p>The 2nd periodical verification had been conducted by CCCI, and during the verification process, VVB has confirmed that all market swine and breeding swine at Lianping Nongmu Swine Farm and Zijin Nongye Swine Farm were scheduled to be sold and replaced between October 2023 and November 2023 which have been reflected and assessed in the 2nd verification report.</p> <p>Based on this reason and via the actual situation of the project through checking the operation record of these two swine farms in this 3rd monitoring period, VVB verified that about 30 days of marketing swine and about 50 days of breeding swine were introduced in the two farms during the 3rd monitoring period.</p> <p>The changes of the two involved farms created a temporary change from the certified monitoring plan due to the number of market swine sold $N_{p,LT}$ (which is used for calculation of N_{LT} of market swine) in the 3rd monitoring period does not reach the same scale as before at the initial stage and no three age groups of swine can be produced which may temporarily impact the sampling method of W_{site} in the registered PDD.</p> <p>PD has proposed alternative monitoring arrangements for above two monitoring parameters for the non-conforming monitoring period. i.e. 3rd periodical as above descriptions which has been assessed as below,</p> <p>For N_{LT}, the calculation of N_{LT} for market swine was requested to change by using Option 2 (Equation (16)) of ACM0010 i.e. $N_{LT} = \frac{\sum_1^{365} N_{AA,LT}}{365}$. Via checking the applied</p>
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methodology, VVB confirmed that the original method in the registered PDD is Option 1 and the methodology provides Option 2 which can also be used for calculation of N_{LT} for market swine, and based on the monitoring method which has been provided in the registered PDD, VVB confirmed that the $N_{AA,LT}$ of market swine can be monitored by using unique electronic ear tag in each farm.

Hence, for this monitoring parameter, VVB confirmed that PD has applied reasonable and methodology permitted alternative method to the calculations to the extent required to ensure that GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals will not be overestimated as a result of the deviation.

For W_{site} , due to both of the marketing swine and breeding swine in these two farms started growing from nursery phase due to replacement in the 3rd monitoring period, hence it will not match the monitoring sampling method in the applied methodology that requests each defined livestock population should be classified into a minimum of three age categories: Nursery phase, Growing phase, and Mature phase, and the average monthly weight of the swine in the farm (W_{site}) needed to be sampled based on three age groups.

Via checking the operation record of these two swine farms in this 3rd monitoring period, VVB confirmed that during the initial stage in 3rd monitoring period, one or two age groups existed during the first few months: From the 10th month of this 3rd monitoring period, the breeding swine population gradually returned to the three age groups defined in the PDD and ACM0010, while the marketing swine population had already returned to these three age groups from the 5th month, the three age groups of the swine can be achieved.

	<p>So the sampling of W_{site} was temporarily based on the two age groups during the first 9 months of this 3rd monitoring period until the three age groups were formed, and the average monthly weight of the swine in the farm (W_{site}) would be calculated based on the two age groups (Nursery phase and Growing phase) which will result a lower emission reduction due to the weight of the swine was lighter in Nursery phase and Growing phase than Mature phase.</p> <p>Therefore, VVB confirmed that for this monitoring parameter, PD has applied conservative factors to the calculations to the extent required to ensure that GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals will not be overestimated as a result of the deviation.</p> <p>And PD has confirmed that the changes have occurred due to reasons beyond their control but is temporary in nature and the project will revert back to its original design after the 3rd monitoring period.</p>
VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request	<p>Based on above total assessment, VVB verified that there are temporary changes from the certified monitoring plan, and, VVB determined that the change complies with the relevant requirements as stated in paragraphs 3.2.3 & 3.2.4 in Deviations Approval Requirements and Procedures version 2.0 as applicable.</p> <p>VVB confirmed that PD has proposed alternative monitoring arrangements and applied the conservative approach for the non-conforming 3rd monitoring period to ensure that GHG emission reductions or net anthropogenic GHG removals will not be overestimated as a result of the deviation.</p> <p>VVB confirmed that the temporary change from the certified monitoring plan only be applicable to the 3rd monitoring period and will revert back to its original design after the 3rd monitoring period.</p>

		<p>Furthermore, as the assessment to the temporary change from the certified monitoring plan, VVB confirmed that the temporary changes in this 3rd monitoring period only involved monitoring methods for N_{LT} for market swine and sampling method of W_{site}.</p> <p>Thus, based on the change principle, VVB verified that it will not cause any impact on the project design, local stakeholder consultation, safeguarding principles, SDG assessment, regulatory compliance, baseline scenario, additionality, applicability of methodology and ex ante estimation of annual emission reductions.</p>
VVB recommendation		The deviation is applicable to the 3 rd monitoring period
VVB details	VVB name:	China Certification Center, Inc.
	Auditor name(s):	Hong Dandan
	Email (s):	hong_dandan@126.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. operation record of two swine farms in this 3rd monitoring period

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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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