

TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1| Decision

1.1 | Date – 19/12/2022

1.2 | Decision

The deviation approval is subject to successful compliance with the following requirement –

- The PD shall submit the documentation for Design Certification Renewal along with the VVB opinion latest by 19th March, 2023 to SustainCert.

If the PD complies with above-mentioned condition, then they are allowed to claim credits from end date of the previous crediting period. In case the documentation does not get submitted within the deadline then the PD shall not be allowed to claim SDG impact for the period of delay.

The validating VVB shall, through appropriate means at its disposal, evaluate the Project's compliance with the above-mentioned condition and provide its opinion in the Validation Report.

SustainCert shall review both the PD's response and the VVB's assessment/opinion of the same and take appropriate steps.

1.3 | Is this decision applicable to other project activities under similar circumstances?

No

B. To be completed by the Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB requesting deviation (Submit deviation request form in Microsoft Word format)

2| Background information

| | | |
|--|---|-------------|
| Deviation Reference Number | DEV_333 | |
| Date of decision | 19/12/2022 | |
| Precedent (YES/NO) | No | |
| Precedent details | N/A | |
| Date of submission | 17/11/2022 | |
| Project/PoA/VPA | Project | ID – GS6279 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> PoA | ID – GSXXXX |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> VPA | ID – GSXXXX |
| Project/PoA/VPA title | 19.2 MWp Solar Power Project by HZL at Debari and Dariba, Rajasthan | |
| Date of listing | 23/03/2018 | |
| GS Standard version applicable | GS4GG | |
| Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable) | NA | |
| Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable) | 19/05/2020 | |
| Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable) | NA | |
| Location of project/PoA/VPA | India | |
| Scale of the project/PoA/VPA | <input type="checkbox"/> Microscale <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large scale | |
| Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA | https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/1384 | |
| Status of the project/PoA/VPA | <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <input type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project | |
| Title/subject of deviation | Deviation Request for GS 6279 against clause no 10.6.1 of GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION & SEQUESTRATION PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS V 2.1. | |

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|---|--|
| Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number | Deviation is requested from clause no 10.6.1 of GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION & SEQUESTRATION PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS V 2.1 which states that " CDM Project seeking labelling of issued CERs (GSCERs) shall mirror the CDM crediting period renewal cycle for Certification Renewals (e.g. 7 years)." |
| Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable) | <div>Start date</div> <div>End date</div> |
| Submitted by | <div>Contact person name: Shubham Pagare</div> <div>Email ID: shubham.pagare@enkingint.org</div> <div>Organisation: EKI Energy Services Limited</div> <div>Project participant: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> |
| Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB). | <div>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div>If yes; VVB name:</div> <div>VVB Staff name(s):</div> |
| Any previous deviations approved for the same project activity/PoA/VPA(s)? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3| Deviation detail

3.1 | Description of the deviation:

3.1.1 | Deviation detail (to be completed by Project developer):

Design certification date of the subject project activity on 19/05/2020.

The crediting period of the project activity considered 23/07/2019 to 22/07/2024 (renewable twice) in line with clause no. 10.2.3 of GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION & SEQUESTRATION PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS V 2.1 and same period was appearing in the project page at GS site.

Project Proponent had plan to complete the renewal process before end of the crediting period date as per renewal of CP requirement given in clause no. 5.1.45 of PRINCIPLES & REQUIREMENTS V 1.2.

As per clause no 10.6.1 of GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION & SEQUESTRATION PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS V 2.1 which states that " CDM Project seeking labelling of issued CERs (GSCERs) shall mirror the CDM crediting period renewal cycle for Certification Renewals (e.g. 7 years)."

However, PP was not aware about this requirement and no notification mail received from Gold Standard to comply it. This has been noticed during the discussion with VVB in ongoing verification of the project activity.

A clarification mail has sought immediately to Gold Standard on May 18th, 2021 on the subject. In response, GS has updated the crediting period of the project activity in line with CDM and suggested to contract VVB for revalidation and renewal CP of the project activity.

PP is working towards the suggestion and VVB appointment is under process currently.

There is no delay from PP end to initiate the renewal process as per above, hence deviation is requested to approve the renewal date shall be the first day after the end date of the current certification cycle and to mirror the GS crediting period in line CDM as per clause no. 10.6.1 has been updated in GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION & SEQUESTRATION PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS V 2.1.

3.1.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

Not Applicable

3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:

The deviation does not attract any kind of risk upon environmental integrity and all the SDG contributions are achieved in-line with the registered PDD.

3.2.1 | Deviation assessment (to be completed by Project developer):

The subject project activity owned by Hindustan Zinc Limited. The project attained Design Certified Status on 19/05/2020 under GS4GG. The crediting period of the project activity considered 23/07/2019 to 22/07/2024 during certification process and accordingly periodic verification carried out.

However, it has been noticed in ongoing verification that there requirement as per clause no. 10.6.1 has been updated in GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION &

SEQUESTRATION PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS V 2.1 to mirror the crediting period of CDM & GS.

This has not been aware by the client and a clarification mail had sought to GS on the said subject.

The crediting period has been updated in line with CDM and as per suggestion received from GS, PP has started VVB appointment process for revalidation and renewal of the crediting period.

Since the project owner was serious towards renewal of crediting period and there is no delay from their end and is compiling all requirements as per GS guideline, the project owner is requesting Gold Standard for allowing the renewal date to be the first day after the end date of the current certification cycle in order to mirror the CDM Issuance cycle as the crediting period is same in CDM and GS and the project is able to label the CER's issued from CDM for the complete crediting period. To mirror the CDM crediting period cycle, the GS crediting period cycle will be from 23/07/2026 to 22/07/2033. It is requested to allow GS labelling from 23/07/2026 onwards without any loss of GS labelled credits due to delay in GS RCP submission.

3.2.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

Not Applicable

3.3 | Impact of the deviation:

3.3.1 | Impact assessment (to be completed by Project developer):

The above deviation will not cause any impact upon the data quality or attract any potential risk on GS related to any issuance or any other material impact affecting the quality of the project and thus no any potential risk is attributed to GS Project activity in particular.

The deviation requested adheres to the Principles and Requirements set forth by GS4GG and complies with:

- Environmental Integrity- The GSVER's generated from the project activity are not over estimated as a result of deviation and conservativeness are ensured.
- Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals- SDG contributions that the project is designed to achieve are in line with GS4GG requirements and the above deviation does

not have any potential impact upon the certified SDG's claimed during the current crediting period.

- Safeguarding Principles and requirements- The deviation does not create any impact upon the safeguarding principles and requirements set forth by GS4GG

- Compliance with Host Country Regulations- The project does not create any conflict with Host Country regulations and all the host country regulations are followed.

It is to be noted that last GS verification audit for monitoring period from 23/07/2019 to 31/08/2020 was conducted on 16/10/2020 and the GS verification final documents are submitted to GS for review purpose. There is no any monitoring data gap for the project activity and monitoring is done as per registered monitoring plan. Thus, deviation do not have any impact on quality of project and all Principles and Requirements set forth by GS4GG are followed by project activity.

3.3.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

Not Applicable

3.4 | Documents:

Correspondence mail on the subject