

TEMPLATE

DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – 28/08/2023

1.2 | Decision

The deviation is APPROVED. However, the PD shall note that this is not a permanent approval.

The PD must implement a process/procedure to ensure that in future, the Annual Reports are submitted each year and latest by end of the following year of a monitoring period as stipulated in PRINCIPLES & REQUIREMENTS - Version 1.2 § 5.1.39 to 5.1.44. or any other version that supersede in future; independent of any status of the project.

Compliance of this decision shall be reflected in next Monitoring Report and, the verifying VVB, shall present in its next Verification Report information on how the PP has complied with this decision as part of the assessment of the PP's management system.

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_498-5	
Date of decision	28/08/2023	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	15/08/2023	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GS1104
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GSXXXX
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX

Project/PoA/VPA title	Zhongshan County Micro Hydro Project Bundle No.6
Date of listing	-
GS Standard version applicable	GS4GG
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)	4/8/2020
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)	-
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	23/07/2013
Location of project/PoA/VPA	People's Republic of China
Scale of the project/PoA/VPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microscale <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale
Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/75
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	Submission of Annual Report
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	1. Chapter 5, Section (d) paragraphs 5.1.39 to 5.1.44 of the GS4GG Principles and Requirements Version 1.2. 2. 5.1.1 & 5.3.1 of Gold Standard COVID-19: interim measures Version 6
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date 29/12/2019 End date 28/12/2021

Submitted by	Contact person name: Xuan Yang Yuxi Feng Email ID: x.yang@southpole.com y.feng@southpole.com Organisation: Swiss Carbon Value Ltd. Project participant: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB).	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes; VVB name: VVB Staff name(s):
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:

**Guidance* Use the space below to describe the deviation and substantiate the reason for requesting deviation from applicable rules/requirements. Please include all relevant information in support of the request. You are requested to follow the principles for requesting deviations, given in the [Deviation Approval Procedure/ Design Change Requirements](#).*

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

This project finished transition to GS4GG in late 2020 (4/8/2020). At that time, PP assumed no annual report was needed for year 2020. Then after further communication and check in 2021, it was noticed that the annual report was still required. However, due to the lockdown and travel restriction caused by Covid 19, the annual report was eventually submitted in March 2022.

During the current performance review, the time lag of annual report submission was raised by Sustaincert. After detailed explanation was provided to Sustaincert, a concluded deviation request was also requested by Sustaincert to close the performance review. Accordingly, this deviation form was prepared and submitted to GS as well.

For year 2020, which is within this monitoring period, the project had been operating well, and also the monitoring was performed as per the monitoring plan and methodology, as verified by the DOE during verification.

Therefore, though the annual report of 2020 was submitted late due to misunderstanding caused by transition in late 2020 and Covid 19, no impacts were detected for project operation or monitoring activities. Therefore, the project developer applies for deviation for late submission for annual report of 2020 under these special circumstances

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

**Guidance* If required by SustainCERT or Gold Standard for this particular deviation, please add here the VVB's opinion.*

N/A

3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:

**Guidance* Use the space below to describe how the deviation complies with the requirements, and, where applicable, the accuracy, completeness and conservativeness is ensured. Please include all relevant information in support of the request.*

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

The deviation of the submission of annual report for this project followed the requirement of Transition Requirements, the GS4GG Principles and Requirements Version 1.2, and the Covid-19 Interim Measure.

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

**Guidance* If required by SustainCERT or Gold Standard for this particular deviation, please add here the VVB's opinion.*

N/A

3.3 | Impact of the deviation:

**Guidance* Use the space below to describe the impact of the deviation on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project. Please substantiate the impact assessment with relevant and verifiable data/information.*

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

Following the proposed deviation, the impact will be evaluated as follows:

1. Project Design:

There is no change in the project design. The monitoring plan is implemented in compliance with the applied methodology and registered PDD.

2. Emission reduction:

There is no change of Emission reduction. The project still remains as a micro scale project.

3. Monitoring frequency:

There is no change of monitoring frequency and it remains as per the registered monitoring plan.

4. Data quality:

There is no impact on data quality. The quality of data follows requirements of meth and has been verified by DOE.

5. Safeguard principal assessment:

There is no impact on safeguarding principles assessment. The project follows Tthe Safeguarding Principal and requirements, which has been verified by VVB during verification.

6. SDG assessment:

There is no impact on SDG assessment. The assessment was performed accordingly to requirements and has been verified by VVB during verification.

7. Potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project:

No impact is identified.

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

**Guidance* If required by SustainCERT or Gold Standard for this particular deviation, please add here the VVB's opinion.*

N/A

3.4 | Documents:

**Guidance* List of documents provided (note that once a decision has been made by Gold Standard, this deviation form along with supporting documents will be made public on the Gold Standard website. If any of the supporting documents are confidential, please indicate here to ensure they are omitted.)*

Monitoring report;

Verification report by VVB.

Version number	Release date	Description
5	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	14.01.2021	
3	16.07.2020	
2	03.05.2018	
1	01.07.2017	Initial adoption