



**Gold Standard**<sup>®</sup>  
for the Global Goals

TEMPLATE

# DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

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PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

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## A. To be completed by Gold Standard

### 1 | Decision

**1.1 | Date – 27/10/2023**

**1.2 | Decision**

The deviation is partially approved.

Previous deviation decision (COVID\_DEV 317) granted a 6-month period extension for submitting the documents for design certification; due on 01/03/2023.

Recognizing that PD faced problems with the VVB, it is granted an additional extension to submit the corresponding validation documentation for design certification until 31/12/2023. If the PD fails to submit the documentation for design certification by this date, the project will not be considered as eligible for Gold Standard Certification.

PD shall consider previous deviation decision request that states:

The Project Developer shall document the deviation request, its implications, and GS' decision in the appropriate section of the GS PDD.

FAR for validating VVB (to be considered at design certification stage):

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

Additionally, the VVB shall assess the impact of this delay in the validation process regarding the ongoing financial need Principle 5: Financial Additionality & Ongoing Financial Need, b) of the Principles and Requirements v1.2. The validating VVB shall provide the means of validation and its validation opinion accordingly.

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**

**2| Background information**

Deviation Reference Number	DEV_524	
Date of decision	27/10/2023	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	13/09/2023	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GS7151
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GSXXXX
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX
Project/PoA/VPA title	Sakarya Biogas Power Plant	
Date of listing	01/09/2020	
GS Standard version applicable	V1.2	
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)		
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)		
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)		
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Turkey	
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	<a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/1788">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/1788</a>	
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Listed <input type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input type="checkbox"/> Certified project	
Title/subject of deviation	Request for extension for Design Certification	
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	<p>Principles and Requirements V1.2</p> <p><b>Clause 5.1.1 (b):</b>            Projects may then seek Gold Standard Certified Design status by successfully completing Validation (within two years of the date of Listing) and a subsequent Design Review.</p> <p>Page Number: 19</p>	

Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date	End date
Submitted by	Contact person name: Joao Farinho	
	Email ID: joao.farinho@climetrekk.com	
	Organisation: ClimeTrek 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 deviation request is about an extension for the Gold Standard Project 7151: Sakarya Biogas Power Plant project.

According to Clause 5.1.1 of the Principles and Requirements document, sub clause (b) "Projects may then seek Gold Standard Certified Design status successfully completing Validation (within two years of the date of Listing) and a subsequent Design Review." The project in contention completed the preliminary review and got listed on 01st September 2020, and going by the Clause as stated above, the validation should be completed by 01st September 2022.

However, due to delay by the contracted VVB in undergoing the validation of the project and providing the validation report, coupled with COVID-19 pandemic which and due to other reasons beyond the control of the project owner, the validation was not able to complete within the

timeline. It was granted an extension until the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023, however the auditor at the VVB has left, did not reply to ClimeTrek's emails and so the new auditor could not start reviewing the project. It took some time for the new auditor at the VVB to get familiarized with the project which has delayed the entire process.

Owing to such a circumstance, we are requesting an extension of 6 months for us to complete the validation and design certification accordingly. As per the letter dated 12th September and reference number: 3401.2023/414/344, the Project Owner has provided a signed declaration stating that there has been no deviation in the project activity since the start of the project and if needed, an annual report can be provided as well to ascertain this point.

Thus, on behalf of the Project Owner i.e., Sakarya Entegre Kati Atik Yonetimi Anonim Sirketi, and being the Project Representative on this project, we request you to grant us this extension such that the project can complete its validation and design certification adequately. We would request you to treat this subject on a priority basis and assist us on an immediate basis and give us an extension of six months for the completion of design certification.

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 requested deviation does not have any effect on the project's activities, on monitoring or monitoring results and on emission reductions or crediting. As per the letter dated 12th September and reference number: 3401.2023/414/344, the Project Owner has provided a signed declaration stating that there has been no deviation in the project activity since the start of the project and if needed, an annual report can be provided as well to ascertain this point.

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):

The requested deviation does not cause any impact on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk, or any other relevant aspect of the project.

As per the letter dated 12th September and reference number: 3401.2023/414/344, the Project Owner has provided a signed declaration stating that there has been no deviation in the project activity since the start of the project and if needed, an annual report can be provided as well to ascertain this point.

#### 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.)*

The documents submitted for the deviation request are

- GS7151: Extension Request Letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- GS 7151: Gold Standard Declaration by Project Owner dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Version number	Release date	Description
5	11.04.2022	Additional information added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- date of listing, design certification, transition</li> <li>- standard version</li> <li>- specific reference to a requirement deviated from</li> <li>- any previous deviations/design changes approved</li> </ul> Guidance on VVB opinion
4	14.01.2021	
3	16.07.2020	
2	03.05.2018	
1	01.07.2017	Initial adoption