



DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

PUBLICATION DATE **11.04.2021**

Version **5.0**

A. To be completed by Gold Standard

1 | Decision

1.1 | Date – 28/09/2023

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 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_531	
Date of decision	28/09/2023	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	14/06/2023	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GS397
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GSXXXX
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX
Project/PoA/VPA title	Suzhou Qizi Mountain Landfill Gas Recovery Project	
Date of listing		
GS Standard version applicable	GS4GG Principles and Requirements Version 1.2	
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)	20/02/2019	
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)	N/A	
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	22/04/2009	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Host country(ies) China	
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/1643	
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	Late Submission of the 2020 Annual Report	
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number	GS4GG Principles and Requirements Version 1.2, Chapter 5, Section (d) paragraphs 5.1.39 to 5.1.44.	
Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date	End date
Submitted by	Contact person name: Ning Hou Email ID: n.hou@southpole.com	

	Organisation: South Pole Carbon Asset Management Ltd. Project participant: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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):

The deviation is requested for the late submission of the 2020 annual report.

The GS4GG Principles and Requirements Version 1.2 refers that:

Annual Reports are required and shall be submitted to Gold Standard as per outlined in Chapter 5, Section (d) paragraphs 5.1.39 to 5.1.44 of the GS4GG Principles and Requirements Version 1.2.

The verification for the monitoring period 01/04/2018 to 31/07/2020 was initiated during the 2020 H2 and the VVB site visit was performed in Dec 2020. During the site visit the conditions of the project were thoroughly checked by the VVB and the verification was completed well. At that time, it was thought since the VVB confirmed the project conditions at the end of 2020, it would act as the replacement of the 2020 annual report. Now it is understood it is a misunderstanding, therefore the annual report for the year 2020 is prepared and submitted.

During the current performance review, the lack 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 a misunderstanding, no impacts were detected for project operation or monitoring activities. Therefore, the project developer applies for deviation for late submission of the 2020 annual report under these special circumstances.

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

Not applicable

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):

Since this is a request to supplement the 2020 annual report, there won't be any compromise with the accuracy, completeness and conservativeness of the project. The monitoring plan would be clearly settled down to ensure the accuracy, completeness and conservativeness of the monitoring of the parameters.

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

Not applicable

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):

As mentioned above, this is a deviation request to supplement the 2020 annual report. It has no impact on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emission reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk, or any other relevant aspect of the project activity.

After the deviation, the project design will not change, safeguarding principles and SDG assessments remain the same; emissions reductions are still calculated based on data collected through the monitoring activities as per the monitoring plan; monitoring frequency for each parameter remains the same as required by monitoring plan; data quality is guaranteed by cross-check procedures stipulated in monitoring plan; and there is no other potential risk.

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

Not applicable

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.)*

No other documents except for this deviation request form.

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