



# 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 – dd/mm/yyyy**

26/07/2024

#### 1.2 | **Decision**

The Deviation Request is partially approved.

Since the start date of the crediting period 05/07/2019 is before the project registration date and the reasons being nonforce majeure, PD shall note that the VVB shall not verify the monitoring period falling before two years of the site visit date (RU-Applicability of minimum site visit requirements by VVB Sec 2.2). Hence if the VVB site visit happened on 01/02/2023, the monitoring period shall not be before 01/02/2021, since it is the first verification.

As per p.5.1.46 GS P&R v1.2, no issuance can be claimed for a period of delay in design certification renewal. However, PD shall be granted extension until 31/12/2024 for the submission of documents for design certification renewal without any loss of credits.

**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_772	
Date of decision	26/07/2024	
Precedent (YES/NO)	No	
Precedent details	NA	
Date of submission	01/07/2024	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID - GS10797
	<input type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID - GSXXXX
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID - GSXXXX

Project/PoA/VPA title	Himalayan Rocket Stove Project in India
Date of listing	02/07/2020
GS Standard version applicable	Gold Standard for Global Goals (GS4GG)
Date of transition to GS4GG (if applicable)	NA
Date of transition to Gold Standard from another standard (e.g. CDM) (if applicable)	NA
Date of design certification/inclusion (if applicable)	27/07/2021
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	<a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2754">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/2754</a>
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input type="checkbox"/> Certified project
Title/subject of deviation	Deviation from GS4GG Principles and Requirements, Section 5.1.45 & 5.1.46, regarding delay in Design Certification Renewal so as to obtain full credits from the period starting from 05/07/2024 to 04/04/2029, under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Crediting Period.

<p>Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology, with exact paragraph reference and version number</p>	<p>Principles and Requirement, version 1.2, published in October 2019, para: 5.1.45 &amp; 5.1.46</p> <p>5.1.45 To maintain Gold Standard Certified Project status beyond five years, a Project must undergo Design Certification Renewal. This process shall begin (defined by the submission of a Renewal opinion by a VVB for Design Review to Gold Standard) no later than the last date of the current certification cycle. Note that review of the Design Certification Renewal may be completed after the last date of current crediting period. In this case, the renewal date shall be the first day after the end date of the current certification cycle.</p> <p>5.1.46 Delay in the completion of re-validation beyond the last date of current certification cycle shall result in a reduction of any issuance of Certified Products and/or Impact Statements available during following certification cycle (for example, a delay of 1 year beyond the first cycle shall mean that no Certified Impact Statements shall be issued for the period of delay).</p>
<p>Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)</p>	<p>Start date 05/07/2024      End date 04/07/2029</p>
<p>Submitted by</p>	<p>Contact person name: Marcelino Pellitero</p> <p>Email ID: <a href="mailto:standards@southpole.com">standards@southpole.com</a></p> <p>Organization: Swiss Carbon Value Ltd.</p> <p>Project participant: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB).</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes; VVB name:  VVB Staff name(s):</p>
<p>Any previous deviations approved for the same project activity/PoA/VPA(s)?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

### 3 | Deviation detail

#### 3.1 | Description of the deviation:

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

This project activity has got its design certification status in February 2023 (GS ID 10747), however as per the *Principal & Requirement para 5.1.23 "The date of Design Certification is the last day of the 4-week Design Review period, even if the design review is concluded after this date."* Therefore, the date of Design Certification is 27/07/2021 based on the last day of the 4-week Design Review period.

This project activity involves distribution of Himalayan Rocket Stoves (heating stoves), which caters dual requirements of the space heating & cooking simultaneously for the end users. Meeting two demands makes this heating stove very efficient & unique by virtue of its limited application for the users mainly in Himalayan Mountain region or similar region within the host country (India). HRS stoves' operational period is also considered only for winters (October to March) in any year and the same is specified in the PDD as well. Thus, project stoves are serving the dual purpose and operational in only remote mountain ranges during the winter period only.

Post completing the successful design review status in Feb 2023, 1<sup>st</sup> verification within the 1<sup>st</sup> CP has started immediately in 2023 which is line with the Principles & Requirement, para 5.1.29 – "Verification must occur at least once during the five-year Certification cycle with the first Verification completed within two years of project Implementation Date **or Design Certification, whichever is later.**

It is to be noted that during the validation process, due to COVID-19, Remote site visit measures were undertaken. Therefore, VVB onsite visits have been arranged during the first verification period (MP: 05/07/2019 to 28/02/2023) in July 2023 which is currently undergoing and expected to conclude FVR submission within a month time (i.e by end of July 2024). Also, it is transparently mentioned under the first MP that the deployment of stoves drastically reduced and only 8,720 HRS stoves got implemented during the first MP which is much less than the expected volume (138,598 stoves) given under the registered GS PDD projections. Reduced rate of HRS stove deployment also impacted the project scale (Large Scale) mentioned in the registered PDD. As per the current scenario available around 10000 stove deployment is ensured which makes the project vulnerable in the absence of additional revenue. These stoves are highly efficient and reduce almost half of the fuel wood consumption.

In the light of the above explanation, it is kept forward that the entire exercise of project registration & first issuance has resulted in the delay in the submission of process of Renewal of Crediting Period request as without completing a single verification and physical site visit within the first crediting period from 05/07/2019 to 04/07/2024 it was not reasonable for submission of Renewal of crediting period back-to-back without completing the first verification with physical onsite visit in principle as this project has operation period of 6 months only (from October to March) winter season. PP is

therefore requesting an extension to complete the RCP submission in this year's winter period.

Project GS4GG webpage link and first verification VVB contract proof, site visit pictures etc are provided as an annexure.

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

NA.

### **3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:**

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

Swiss Carbon Value Ltd had already initiated the process for renewal of crediting period by inviting the quotation for the same and currently under process of empanelment of VVB for second RCP. Since, 1<sup>st</sup> verification under CP1 was an important milestone to complete with onsite visit and the same is expected to be completed within a month time (July 2024) hopefully we would request to grant extension for the RCP document submission.

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

NA

### **3.3 | Impact of the deviation:**

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

The request of deviation for this project lies very close to the crediting period renewal due date for CP-2 (within the same year), which will not affect the project design, emission reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality and potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project during the delay period (few months only).

The project has continued to monitor all parameters on a continuous basis. The above deviation will not cause any impact on 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 potential risk is attributed to GS Project activity.

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

- ✓ Emissions reductions: The requested deviation will have no impact on these.
- ✓ SDG impacts: The requested deviation is related
- ✓ to the renewal of the crediting period. As such, it will have no impact on the project SDGs. Potential risk: No risk is perceived in this request.

- ✓ Environmental Integrity: The VERs generated from the project activity are not overestimated as conservativeness is ensured

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

NA

### 3.4 | Documents:

#### Annexure 1:

- a. **Link of Project GS web page:**

<https://platform.sustain-cert.com/public-project/2146>

- b. **VVB Contract Copy for MP 1 within CP1:**

A few Pages of VVB Contract shared as separate PDF file with the submission.

- c. **Photos of VVB Site Visit:**

A few pictures of 1<sup>st</sup> physical site visit at different locations:



Site Visit at LEH- HRS Stove (Eco Mini)



“Chai pe Charcha” with baseline Bukhari stove user in Himachal Pradesh



Conversation with HRS field Team - Sethan, Himachal Pradesh



HRS Stove (Eco 1) installed in homestay in Himachal Pradesh.



VVB 1<sup>st</sup> verification Site Visit at Himachal Pradesh



HRS Stove (Eco 1) in Project household of Himachal Pradesh.

VVB site visit in Northeast Region of India:

Tieedi Gorabari, Darjeeling:



Kurseong, Darjeeling:



Limbugaon, Darjeeling:



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