

Balsas Renewable Energy Project, Brazil (GS1291)

3-week issuance review period under GS Version 2.2 VER

This document is the GS synthesis of the comments and requests for clarification/corrective action received during the 3-week issuance review period.

Information on the request

Requested by:	Sustainable Carbon – Projetos Ambientais LTDA
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Date of request:	24th February 2015
Date of GS feedback – I round:	16th March 2015

Project Registration Date: 20/11/2013

Crediting Period Start Date: 01/13/2011

1st Periodic Monitoring period: 01/12/2011-30/09/2014 (days included)

Amount of GS VERs under review: 19,376tCO₂e

Year	GS VERs (tCO ₂ e)
01/12/2011-31/12/2011	433
01/01/2012-31/12/2012	6,704
01/01/2013-31/12/2013	7,010
01/01/2014-30/09/2014	5,229
Total	19,376

Document (s) provided and reviewed (I round):

- GS Monitoring Report (Version 03, 04/02/2015)
- GS ER calculation spreadsheet (Version 03, submitted on 23/02/2015)
- GS Verification Report (IBOPE, Report N. 292507-2014, Revision N. 01, 19/02/2015)
- Monitoring Plan of the registered GS VER PDD Version 12
- Monitoring Plan of the registered Annex AQ Version 6

Project summary

The micro-scale project aims to generate thermal energy with renewable biomass (rice husk) for the Balsas red ceramic factory, with an overall capacity of 2.62 MW_{thermal} on average per year in the state of Maranhão, Brazil. The project activity substitutes non-renewable woody biomass predominantly came from areas without sustainable forest management. The project will also involve energy efficiency measures, such as improved fuel handling and kilns improvement to reduce the necessary energy per production output, however, no emission reductions are claimed for energy efficiency measures, since these are applied after the complete fuel switch to renewable biomass.

The renewable biomass will be used in the kilns installed in the ceramic plant to cook pieces like ceramic bricks and construction blocks, destined mainly for the regional market. The annual average expected emission reductions of the project activity are 5,688 tCO₂e/y. The project was registered under The Gold Standard on November 20th 2013. This is the first monitoring period covering 01 December 2011 to 30 September 2014 and emission reductions of 19,376tCO₂ are generated in the MP.

Review results and conclusions:

The GS has reviewed the submitted project and identified a number of areas where additional information is necessary for the project to be in line with the Gold Standard requirements.

Comment/Request 1. Information			
1. The PP is requested to establish the issuance request for vintage break on GS registry. i.e.			
Vintage	Vintage start	Vintage end	Quantity
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2. The PP shall confirm the starting date of crediting period for this project. i.e. 20/11/2011 or 01/12/2011.			
Response by PP (round 1):			
Response by GS (round 2):			

Comment/Request 2. Monitoring of Emission Reduction	
1. It's found in sheet 'Amount of renewable biomass' that the applied value in Column C for $Q_{renbiomass}$ in each month is calculated results. The original data and calculation formula shall also be provided for review.	
Response by PP (round 1):	
Response by GS (round 2):	

Comment/Request 3. Monitoring of Sustainable Development	
1. The PP is requested to report the specific monitoring result for the following SD indicators in Annex 1 of MR. -Access to affordable and clean energy services. The total energy value produced from renewable sources in this monitoring period shall be added in the monitoring table. -Quantitative employment and income generation. The number of VER issued and additional revenues for biomass suppliers shall be added in the monitoring table. The DOE is requested to verify these values added by the PP.	
2. In the monitoring method of soil condition, the PP mentions that photographs shall be used as evidencing to its final destination. For transparency, the PP shall supplement these photos and the DOE shall check.	
Response by PP (round 1):	
Response by DOE (round 1):	
Response by GS (round 2):	

Comment/Request 4. Verification Report	
1.	The DOE shall correct the monitoring period end date 01/09/2014 in VR, which shall be 30/09/2014.
2.	It's noticed that the DOE has interviewed 3 people from the company, i.e. Owner, Administrative Assistant and Technical Analyst. Besides them, the DOE shall clarify if they have interviewed other workers, for instance rice husk collectors.
3.	In section 6. REFERENCES of VR the DOE shall list the documents and evidences that are checked for f_{NRB} calculation.
Response by DOE (round 1):	
Response by GS (round 2):	

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Conclusion – The GS opinion is that 19,376 VERs (Monitoring Period – 01/12/2011 to 30/09/2014) can be issued after the above clarifications and/or corrective actions have been taken care of in a satisfactory way.