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Washington, DC 20005
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22 July 2021

Umut Önder, Ph.D.
Founder
BIO SOLUTIONS LLC.

Dear Umut Önder,

This letter is in reference to your exemption request submitted to Verra on 24 May 2021. It is our understanding that Bio Solutions LLC. (the Project Proponent), is requesting an exemption from Section 3.16.2 of the *VCS Standard, v4.1* for the GZL ENERGY BIOGAS PLANT (Project ID 2460) and the BYZ GLOBAL ENERGY BIOGAS PLANT (Project ID 2457). The Project Proponent is requesting to be exempt from the local stakeholder consultation requirement before the projects undergo validation.

Based on the information provided to Verra, it is understood that Projects 2460 and 2457 were unable to meet the requirement of holding local stakeholder consultations prior to the validation of the projects due to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The COVID-19 pandemic led to an unexpected and abrupt lockdown in Turkey, which closed offices and halted field work.

Verra analyzed this exemption based on Section 3.16.2 of the *VCS Standard, v4.1*, which states, "The project proponent shall conduct a local stakeholder consultation prior to validation as a way to inform the design of the project and maximize participation from stakeholders. Such consultations allow stakeholders to evaluate impacts, raise concerns about potential negative impacts and provide input on the project design."

Considering the facts and background information provided during this analysis, Verra is able to grant conditional exemptions for Project 2460 and 2457 from Section 3.16.2 of the *VCS Standard, v4.1*, to the Project Proponent. Verra requests that the Project Proponent conducts local stakeholder consultations for both Projects 2460 and 2457 once COVID-19 restrictions are eased by the Turkish government, within 2021, and before the project undergoes verification. Furthermore, the validation reports submitted for Projects 2460 and 2457 must contain a forward action request (FAR) for future VVBs to assess the outcomes of the local stakeholder consultation. Any comments or findings raised during the local stakeholder consultation must be addressed and mitigated.

Please note, exemptions are granted by Verra on a case-by-case basis and do not form the basis of, or set a precedent for, future exemption request approvals or denials.

This letter will be uploaded to the Verra Registry as a public document.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tanushree Bagh Mukherjee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tanushree Bagh Mukherjee
Senior Program Manager, Verra Programs
Verra