CCB VALIDATION REPORT OF HUBEI HONGSHAN IFM (CONVERSION OF LOGGED TO PROTECTED FOREST) PROJECT

Document Prepared By CHINA QUALITY CERTIFICATION CENTER

Project Title	Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project
Project Location	Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, HuBei Province, China
Version	02
Report ID	/
Date of Issue	24-12-2021
Client	Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co. Ltd
Prepared by	China Quality Certification Centre
Contact	Section 9, No.188, the West Road, South Fourth Ring Road, Fengtai District, Beijing, China +8610 83886156 niexi@cqc.com.cn www.cqc.com.cn
Approved by	Li Guozhen
Work Carried Out By	Nie Xi(Team leader) Zhao Guangjie(Team member) Hong Dajian(Technical Reviewer)

Summary

- *A brief description of the validation and the project.*

China Quality Certification Centre (CQC) is commissioned by Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co. Ltd to perform a validation on the project – Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project with regard to the requirements of CCB Standards version 3.1 and CCB Program Version 3.1, and VCS IFM methodology VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3.

The proposed CCB project activity Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project conducts forestry management conversion of 23,769.42 ha logged to Protected Forest (LtPF) in Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province of China. The VCS IFM methodology VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3 is applied to quantify the GHG removals achieved in this project. The calculation of the project emission removals is carried out in a transparent and conservative manner. This project is being developed in conjunction with the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard (CCBS).

- *The purpose and scope of validation.*

The validation objective is an independent assessment by a Third Party of a proposed project activity against all defined criteria set for the registration under the CCB. In order to confirm that the project activity, as documented, is sound reasonable and meets the identified criteria, the validation involves the assessment of: project conformance to CCB rules, project conformance to the applied methodology, including the procedure for the demonstration of additionality specified in the methodology; and likelihood that methods and procedures set out in the project description will generate verifiable GHG data and information when implemented. Validation is a requirement and is seen as necessary to provide assurance to stakeholders of the quality of project. Validation is part of the CCB project cycle and will finally result in a conclusion by the executing VVB whether a project activity is valid to be submitted for registration to CCB registry. The ultimate decision on the registration of a proposed project activity rests with the CCBA.

- *The method and criteria used for validation*

CQC team has employed a risk-based approach in the validation, focusing on the identification of significant risks and reliability of project design and generation of emission reductions according to the relevant applicable version of the CCB Verification Manual and applying auditing techniques. The validation team assessed the proposed project activity's compliance under the CCB Standards version 3.1 and the selected methodology. The project activity is found to be appropriately eligible under Project Scope 14 "Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use (AFOLU). The validation criteria followed the guidance documents provided by CCB included the following: CCB Standards version 3.1, CCB Program Rules version 3.1, AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Tool version 4.0 and VCS IFM methodology VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3.

- *The number of findings raised during validation.*

In the course of the validation 4 Clarification Requests (CLs) were raised and successfully closed.

- *Any uncertainties associated with the validation.*

There are no restrictions of uncertainty.

- *Summary of the validation conclusion.*

CQC team confirms all validation activities including objectives, scope and criteria, level of assurance, monitoring and project documentation adhere to CCB Standards version 3.1, CCB Program Rules version 3.1 and the relevant host Village criteria as documented in this report, are complete. CQC team concludes that the “Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project” meets the requirements of CCB Standard .

Table of Contents

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective

Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co. Ltd has commissioned China Quality Certification Centre（CQC） to carry out the Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) validation of the project, Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project with regard to the relevant requirements of CCB Standards version 3.1 and VCS IFM methodology VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3.

The objective of this validation is to assess the proposed CCB project independently by a Third Party against all defined criteria set for the registration under the CCB. In order to confirm that the project activity, as documented, is sound reasonable and meets the identified criteria, the validation involves the assessment of: project conformance to CCB rules, project conformance to the applied methodology, including the procedure for the demonstration of additionality specified in the methodology; and the procedures set out in the project description for likelihood of generating verifiable GHG data. Validation is a requirement and is seen as necessary to provide assurance to stakeholders of the quality of project. Validation is part of the CCB project cycle and will finally result in a conclusion by the executing VVB whether a project activity is valid to be submitted for registration to CCB registry. The ultimate decision on the registration of a proposed project activity rests with the VERRA.

1.2 Scope and Criteria

CQC team has employed a risk-based approach in the validation, focusing on the identification of significant risks and reliability of project design according to the relevant applicable rules for validation under CCB.

A risk-based approach and document review and an on-site visit combined method were followed by CQC team to perform this validation. As a result of the validation, the validation team confirms that the project follows CCB Standards version 3.1.

The validation scope is to review the criteria against the CCB Standards version 3.1 requirements, and to have a thorough independent and objective assessment of the project design including especially: the correct application of the methodology, project's physical boundaries, management activities and the temporal boundaries as the years when the GHG emission reductions and removals are quantified, monitoring plan and stakeholder involvement, environmental impact and so on, which are included in the CCB PD / other relevant supporting documents, to ensure that the proposed CCB project activity meets all relevant and applicable criteria as follow：

- CCB Standards version 3.1/1/
- CCB Program Rules, v3.1/2/
- Program Definitions, v4.0/3/

● Other rules and requirements related to AFOLU projects

The following documents are also taken into account in the CCB validation, as a CDM methodology was used:

● Approved baseline and monitoring methodologies (including GHG inventories). such as the VCS IFM methodology VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3.".[/4/]

●/12/Tool for the Demonstration and Assessment of Additionality in VCS Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Project Activities" (VT0001 VCS AFOLU Additionality Tool v3.0) dated 01/02/2012(Version 01).[/5/]

The information included in the PD and the supporting documents were reviewed and assessed against the requirements as set out by the CCB Standards version 3.1. The validation is based on the information made available to CQC and on the contract conditions. CQC cannot be held liable for making its validation opinion based on any false or misleading information supplied to it during the course of validation.

The validation is not meant to provide any consulting to the project participants. However, stated requests for clarifications and/or corrective actions may provide input for improvement of the project design.

1.3 Summary Description of the Project

the project is located in Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province of China. The geographical coordinates of the project is between 112°43′~113°46″ east longitude and between 31°19′N~32°26′ north latitude.

The project is developed by Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd. The Project involves 23,769.42 ha logged to Protected Forest (LtPF) project including 5,562 subcompartments spreading over Baoji Village, Wangtai Village, Baiguofan Village, Huoyantao Village, Jimingsi Village, Sanshenmiao Village, Peijiayan Village, Qiaohe Village, Shuangfeng Village, Zhoujiawan Village, Qinglongmiao Village, Wushenggong Village, Yutingling Village, Jieshanchong Village, Yunlin Village, Sishan Neighborhood committee, Maocifan Neighborhood committee, Zhoujiazui Village, Huanglongsi Village, Wenquan Village, Gaojianshan Village, Xujiachong Village, Guanyintang Village, Zhuji Village, Dujiadian Village, Liangtinghe Village, Wangheshan Village, Guoji Village, Dianzihe Village, Huangjiafan Village, Guihuayuan Village. All these villages have the legal right to forest ownership. The tree species of the project include Oak, Masson Pine, Broad-Leaved Mixed Forest and Coniferous and Broad-Leaved Mixed Forest, which are all native species.

The project activity is estimated to reduce the GHG emissions for about 8,769,291 tCO_2e in 30 years,with an average annual GHG emission removal of 292,309 tCO_2e .

The proposed project activity will achieve net anthropogenic GHG removals by sinks by changing from logging trees to protect forest and will increase forest cover in the project region

thus generating a typical landscape formed by conversion of Logged to protected forest, and will produce financial, social and environmental benefits to local communities.

The Project Start Date is 01/01/2015, when Approval of application for logging suspension was issued by local government,Hongshan Forestry Bureau[/6/].

The project had been approved as a VCS project. The net anthropogenic GHG removals by sinks in the 1st monitoring period from 01/01/2015-30/06/2019 is 932,144 tCO_2, which had been approved by VERRA(https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/CCB/1935).

.

2 VALIDATION PROCESS

2.1 Audit Team Composition (*Rules* 4.3.1)

Lead Auditor/VCS-CCB Validator: Nie Xi (Daisy) is qualified by CQC in Validation and Verification of Clean Development Mechanism Requirements (CDM projects) and other voluntary schemes as VCS, CCB and SD. She has experience with more than 50 validation and verification projects including VCS forestry project and CCER forestry project in China. She has also done a lot of research on social and community affairs, and also involved in the provincial standard written. She is the primary draftsman of the standards relating to the social and community, such as General Principles for Low-carbon Operation Management of Community (DB11/T 1532-2018)[1], and Technical Guidelines for Low-carbon Community Assessment (DB11/T 1371-2016)[2].

She has a bachelor degree of Environment Engineering and master degree of Environmental Engineering and conducted more than 30 CDM /VCS projects in China, thus has the relevant social and cultural expertise in this region and also have relevant ecological and biodiversity experience due to the education background. She speaks mandarin which is the common language in China and the regional residents can speak and understand this language.

Technical Reviewer: HONG Dajian is qualified by CQC in Validation and Verification of Clean Development Mechanism Requirements (CDM projects) and other voluntary schemes as VCS, CCB and SD. He has experience with more than 40 validation and verification projects including VCS forestry project and CCER forestry project in China. He has also done a lot of research on social and community affairs, and also involved in the national standard written.

2.2 Method and Criteria

The validation method of the project consisted of the following steps:

- Contract review
- Appointment of validation team and technical reviewers

[1] https://max.book118.com/html/2019/0129/6023223131002004.shtm
[2] http://www.doc88.com/p-9157866532535.html

- A desk review of the CCB PD submitted by the client and additional supporting documents with the use of customized validation protocol
- Validation planning
- On-Site assessment
- Background investigation and follow-up interviews with personnel of the project developer and its contractors
- Draft validation reporting
- Resolution of corrective actions and clarifications
- Final validation reporting
- Technical review
- Final approval of the validation report.

The validation criteria consisted of the following:

- Program Definitions, v4.0
- CCB Standards version 3.1
- CCB Program Rules, v3.1
- VCS IFM methodology VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3.
- Tool for the Demonstration and Assessment of Additionality in VCS Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Project Activities'' (VT0001 VCS AFOLU Additionality Tool v3.0).

The validation process derived from all items in the validation criteria stated above. Considering sample plots had been inspected in the process of VCS verification, and the VCS verification of the project activity had been approved by VERRA, plots inspection was not carried out in this CCB validation. However, site visit and interview were conducted on 2010/2021 and 21/10/2021 to solicit important information from personnel related to project and relevant to the validation process.

2.3 Document Review

The validation was planned after reviews of the Project Description specified as CCB PD template to cover all the requirements set out in the CCB Standards version 3.1 and the methodology used to develop the project's greenhouse gas assertion.

PP submitted CCB PD (version 01)[7] and supporting background documents related to the project design to CQC on 27/09/2021.

PP submitted CCB PD (version 02)[8] and supplementary evidence for closing the CARs and CLs raised during the validation.

Furthermore, the validation team used additional documentation by third parties like host party legislation, technical reports referring to the project design or to the basic conditions and technical data.

2.4 Interviews

The objective of the interview process was to solicit important information from personnel related to project and relevant to the validation process. On-site interviews and information discussions were conducted with project developer, local government officer, local residents and Project development consultant . The interviews were performed by the validation team on-site and the following Table 2-1 is a list of the main interviewees and subject.

Table 2-1: Interview and Interview Topics

Date	Interviewee	Organization	Interview Topics
20/10/2021	Mr.Liu Jun Director	Hongshan Town Forestry Bureau	-Project Boundary -Project design -Compliance with Laws, Statutes and Other Regulatory Frameworks -project approval -Roles & responsibilities of the Government -Project activity starting date -Ownership -Local stakeholder consultation -Technical details of the project - Monitoring plan and arrangements -HCVs in the project zone -Risks to the Project
20/10/2021	Mr. Zhou Xiongjie Local representative	Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd (the PP)	-Project Boundary -Project design -- Participation under other GHG programs -Risks to the Project
21/10/2021	Mr. Yu Kaiquan Mr.Wang Lizhen	Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co., Ltd. (the Consultant)	-Crediting period -Baseline study assumptions -Additionality -Sampling and Monitoring plan -PRA - Editorial issues of the CCB
21/10/2021	Mr. Liu Gongjie Ms. Cai Binbin Mr. Guo Xuanqun Mr. Liu Xueming	Local villagers	- Ownership -Annual income -Job opportunities - investment and Maintenance cost, and other risks - Impact on environment

	Ms. Yang Wenzheng Mr. Li Dingguo Mr. Li Chuanlin		- Impact on biodiversity - Participation of decision making -Stakeholder Consultation - Well-being changes

2.5 Site Inspections

CQC performed a site visit and interviewed the local stakeholders on 20/10/2021 and 21/10/2021. The stakeholders interviewed is listed in Table 2-1. Considering sample plots had been inspected in the process of VCS verification, and the VCS verification of the project activity had been approved by VERRA, plots inspection was not carried out in this CCB validation.

During this site inspection, CQC interviews with the representatives of the project owner and related local stakeholders. The validation site visit allowed the VVB to: understand application of the methodology on-site, confirm the implementation of project activities, and to resolve issues identified in the document review.

The objectives of the on-site inspections performed were to:

(1) Conduct a risk-based review of the project area and project activities to check that the project adhered to the requirements of the CCB Standards & CCB Program Rules and the methodology during the monitoring period

(2) Check that project design was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the validated monitoring plan, the VM0010 methodology and CCB rules

The project is located in Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province of P.R.China. The geo-coordinate range of the project is 112° 43′ E~113° 46′ E and 31° 19′ N~32° 26′ N, the locations of the project visited during the site inspection are confirmed correct by means of GPS navigator and crossed check with local forestry bureau.

2.6 Public Comments (*Rules* 4.6)

The PD is available in both English and Chinese (as is a summary document of the PD). Both the documents were made available on the VERRA website (https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/CCB/1935) for the public consultation period.

The project was open for public comment from 05/08/2021 to 04/09/2021. No public comments were received for this project as confirmed by email from VERRA dated 19/11/2021, the date after the CCB public comment period for draft project documents expired.

2.7 Resolution of Findings

Material discrepancies identified in the course of the validation are addressed either as CARs, CLs or FARs.

A Corrective Action Request (CAR) is established where:

Mistakes have been made in assumptions, application of the methodology or the project documentation which will have a direct influence the project results, the requirements deemed relevant for validation of the project with certain characteristics have not been met or there is a risk that the project would not be registered or that emission reductions would not be able to be verified and certified.

A Clarification Request (CL) will be issued where information is insufficient, unclear or not transparent enough to establish whether a requirement is met.

A Forward Action Request (FAR) will be issued when certain issues related to project implementation should be reviewed during the first verification.

A detailed list of the CARs and CLs raised and discussed in the course of this validation is included in Appendix 2 of this report.

2.8 Forward Action Requests

There is no FAR raised during the validation.

3 VALIDATION FINDINGS

3.1 Summary of Project Benefits

As per the information available in the PD and confirmed by the PP during the on-site visit, it is verified that this section is appropriate for estimating the benefits or outcome that created by the project.

The unique Project Benefits including:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change;

- Improve soil and water conservation and contribute to sustainable development;and

- Provide experience of forest management and risk prevention and control for local stakeholders; and

- Improvement of the biodiversity and ecological environment of the project area and its surrounding area;

-Increase employment opportunities and raise the income level of local residents.

The Standardized Benefits including GHG removals, improvement of forest cover, providing employment opportunities and well-being.

CQC confirms estimated benefits are included and benefits that will not be monitored and/or are not applicable are labeled accordingly in CCB PD.

3.2 General

3.2.1 Project Proponent (G1.1)

By means of on-site interviewing and checking the Project Development Cooperation Agreement[10], CQC confirms the project proponent is Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd International Environmental Investment Co., Ltd and The PP is supposed to provide financial support and organizational management in the project crediting period.

Organization name	Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd
Contact person	Zhou Xiongjie
Title	General Manager
Address	Room 308, Block C, Weiye Road, Puyan Street, Binjiang District,Hangzhou, Zhejiang
Telephone	+86 0571-87424258
Email	391190031@qq.com

3.2.2 Project Objectives (G1.2)

The description of the project activities in PD provides an accurate understanding of the nature of the project, such as the project would:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change；
- Improve soil and water conservation and contribute to sustainable development;and
- Provide experience of forest management and risk prevention and control for local stakeholders; and
- Improvement of the biodiversity and ecological environment of the project area and its surrounding area;
-Increase employment opportunities and raise the income level of local residents.

3.2.3 Physical Parameters (G1.3)

By document review and on-site validation, CQC validation team confirms the PD sufficiently describes the physical parameters of the project area and zone as following:

The project activity Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project conducts forestry management conversion of 23,769.42 ha logged to Protected Forest (LtPF) .The project is located in Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province of China. The

geographical coordinates of the project is between 112°43′~113°46″ east longitude and between 31°19′N~32°26′ north latitude.

The KML file has also been uploaded to Verra Registry and confirmed correct and complete by CQC team through Google earth and onsite inspection.

The condition prior to the proposed carbon sequestration forestation project is summarized as follows.

- **Topography**

Hongshan Town is the southwest central town, and covers an area of 477.88 square kilometers. The landform of Hongshan Town is mainly characterized by low mountains and hills, located in the national scenic tourism area of Dahongshan, located in Suixian, Zengdu, Suizhou, Zaoyang, Yicheng, Zhongxiang, Jingshan seven counties and urban areas of the junction. Sisha, SuiNan line two provincial road cross through the whole territory, unique geographical position, geographical advantages.

- **Soils**

The main soil types of Hongshan Town are argillaceous rock, yellow brown loam and paddy soil. The terrain is mainly low mountains, hills and hills. The altitude of the whole town is between 170-450 meters. Hongshan Town is mainly the stratigraphic area of South Qinling, and the Wudang rock group from Quaternary to Proterozoic is exposed. Among them, the quaternary system is mainly Holocene alluvium, which is composed of gravel layer, mud bearing pebble layer and soil layer; the Cretaceous outcrop Sigou formation is mainly composed of a set of red siltstone, sandstone, glutenite and conglomerate; the Cambrian outcrop liqiuwan formation, shuangjianshan formation, Yangjiapu formation and zhuangzigou formation are mainly developed with shallow marine black shale, sandstone and sandstone Limestone and dolomite; Sinian system includes Dengying Formation and Doushantuo Formation, mainly including argillaceous rock, dolomite, silty shale, siliceous carbonate rock and carbonate rock; Mesoproterozoic stratum mainly includes Wudang group metavolcanic rock group, which is composed of Yangqi schist, albite schist, sericite (dolomite) quartz schist and carbonaceous schist.

- **Climate**

Hongshan Town is located in the intersection of Huaihe River Basin and Yangtze River Basin, in the middle of the Village with mid latitude monsoon circulation. It has a subtropical monsoon climate, with an annual average temperature of about 15.4 ℃, a frost free period of 220-240 days, and an average annual precipitation of 960 mm.

- **Hydrology**

Hongshan Town is located in the intersection zone of Huaihe River Basin and Yangtze River Basin, where Yunshui flows through, and jueshui, piaoshui, Fushui and junshui form Yunshui basin.

- **Types of vegetation**

Hongshan Town is rich in vegetation resources. Because it is located in the transition zone of the warm temperate deciduous broad-leaved forest and the north subtropical evergreen deciduous mixed forest, it also has the vegetation resources of the north and the south. The zonal vegetation type of Hongshan Town is evergreen and deciduous broad-leaved mixed forest. Evergreen tree species decreased from low altitude to high altitude from south to north. The vegetation types widely distributed in the low mountains and hills of the local belt include Masson Pine forest, oak forest and evergreen tree species forest and a small amount of Chinese fir forest. There are some differences between the East and the west. There are many evergreen tree species and Taiwan pine forest in the east, while the west is common with red birch forest, Bashan pine forest, Huashan pine forest and Bashan fir forest with Qinba composition.

3.2.4 Social Parameters (G1.3)

The PD sufficiently describes the social parameters of the project area and zone, by the onsite observations and document assessed, CQC validation team has confirmed such social parameters below:

- Main settlements

The area of the project activity is 23,769.42ha, including 5,562 subcompartments spreading over Baoji Village, Wangtai Village, Baiguofan Village, Huoyantao Village, Jimingsi Village, Sanshenmiao Village, Peijiayan Village, Qiaohe Village, Shuangfeng Village, Zhoujiawan Village, Qinglongmiao Village, Wushenggong Village, Yutingling Village, Jieshanchong Village, Yunlin Village, Sishan Neighborhood committee, Maocifan Neighborhood committee, Zhoujiazui Village, Huanglongsi Village, Wenquan Village, Gaojianshan Village, Xujiachong Village, Guanyintang Village, Zhuji Village, Dujiadian Village, Liangtinghe Village, Wangheshan Village, Guoji Village, Dianzihe Village, Huangjiafan Village, Guihuayuan Village. All these villages have the legal right to forest ownership. The species involved in the project are Oak, Masson Pine, Broad-Leaved Mixed Forest and Coniferous and Broad-Leaved Mixed Forest.

- Land use and economic activities

Hongshan Town, known as the granary of Suizhou, is the production base of high-quality rice, high-quality wheat, high-quality cotton, commercial livestock and poultry and important edible fungi in China. The main land use and economic activities are agriculture. Before the implementation of the project activity, the trees are logged based on a valid and verifiable government-approved timber management plan for harvesting the project area.

- **Socio-cultural information**

Hongshan Town has a long history and splendid culture. It was established in 1793. It is a famous old revolutionary base area. In 1947, Liu Deng's army marched into Dabie Mountain. The Party committee of Jianghan District, the headquarters of the military region, Jianghan

daily, Jianghan administrative office and Hongshan prefectural committee were all stationed in Hongshan.

Hongshan covers an area of 477.88 square kilometers and has a population of 87,000, including Hui, Tujia, Zhuang, Miao, she, Buyi and other ethnic minorities, the town has jurisdiction over 4 communities and 29 administrative villages. There are Pipa Lake and Xinyang hot spring in the east of the town, which is an ideal place for recuperation tourism..

With the rapid development of Hongshan education, there are 15 schools with more than 30000 students and teaching staff. Hongshan Town has one class II class B hospital and one health center. The population of Hongshan town is 87,000 with males accounting for 50.4% and females 49.6%, and 18.9% is older than 60 years old, 22.3% is under 18 In 2015, the per capita disposable income of all residents was 14,930 yuan, and that of permanent rural residents was 13,109 yuan.

3.2.5 Project Zone Map (G1.4-7, G1.13, CM1.2, B1.2)

The project is located in Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province of P.R.China. The geo-coordinate range of the project is 112°43′E~113°46′E and 31°19′N~32°26′N.

According to CCB standard, Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province, China is defined as the project zone, and areas where logging is prohibited is defined as project area. The location of the project area and zone is defined accurately and confirmed through checking the maps and the geographical coordinates.

Areas where offsite climate impacts are predicted, areas were other stakeholders will be impacted, and areas where offsite biodiversity impacts are predicted are clearly described in CCB PD.

Furthermore, based on the carbon sink calculation, it is confirmed that there is no leakage of the project, hence, no offsite climate and biodiversity impacts were predicted.

Via interviewing with local stakeholders during on-site visit, CQC validation team confirms there is no HCVs related to community well-being in the project zone.

3.2.6 Stakeholder Identification (G1.5)

The stakeholders should be all the communities and parties which are relevant to the project activity or impacted by the project or have interest in the project. The PD states that the stakeholders were identified as all communities, community groups, and other stakeholders who will be directly and indirectly affected by the implementation of the project.

The stakeholders are identified as local village committees,local residents, women and rural workers involved in project activities,Local Forestry Bureau, who might has an influence over or be impacted by the project by the project activities.

Approaches taken to validate the process of stakeholder identification and analysis is step wised as follows:

1. Checking the relevant documents and evidences

The stakeholders identification is confirmed as complete by checking the related docs of project, PRA Report/11/ and Project Design for Afforestation Operation which define the communities, community groups. Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd(PP) is responsible for project implementation and project management; Zhongche (Beijing) is responsible for project development and consultant. Technical Training Records/12//13//14//15//16/ are used to prove that local residents including women involved in the project implementation.

2. On-site interview

Via on-site interview with the stakeholders representative from local Forrest Bureau, local resident, Zhejiang Zhongzheng and Zhongche (Beijing) involved in the project implementation, it is confirmed the project is implemented by Zhejiang Zhongzhen and impact the residents in this area, and local forestry bureau is responsible for the approval of project implementation and related environmental and social issues, and during the project period, the local residents involved in the project are paid by PP and trained by the local Forestry Bureau and PP. Therefore, it is verified that each stakeholder is identified correctly, and relevant analysis and assessment, stakeholder's relevance to project activities in the PD is sufficient.

The list of primary stakeholder is provided in the PD and seems reasonable for a project of this nature. This is confirmed during the on-site visit and the interview with the local stakeholders.

CL01 was raised and successfully closed, Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

3.2.7 Stakeholder Descriptions (G1.6, G1.13)

Approaches taken to validate the stakeholder's relevance to project activities are step-wised as following,

1. Checking the relevant docs and evidence. Based on the statement from Hongshan Forest Bureau and cross checking the payroll contract provided by PP,CQC team confirms that local residents (60% of which is female) participated in the project activity as forest ranger to conduct daily management and forest tending.

2. On-site interview. During the site visit on 20-10-2021 and 21-10-2021, CQC validation team had a direct and independent communication with communities and other stakeholders representatives in local forest bureau. During the communications, it was confirmed that more and more local Migrant rural workers are considering staying in hometown, mainly because the project activity can provide a lot of employment opportunity.

Therefore, it is verified that each stakeholder's relevance to project activities in the PD (version 02) is sufficient and summarized below:

Stakeholder	Rights, Interest and Overall Relevance to the Project

Residents of Hongshan town	1,800 local residents participate the implementation of the project by working on forest management. They will be directly affected by the project.
Female rural workers in Hongshan town	Female rural workers are the main labor resources during the project implementation, since most of the male workers go out of their villages for working. Women accounted for 60% of the local residents involved in the project.
Rural workers involved in the project	Rural workers will be affected by the project through their family members who participate the implementation of the project
Forest Bureau of Hongshan town	The local administration who is in charge of the official approval and management of the forest projects.

3.2.8 Project Activities and Theory of Change (G1.8)

The PD discusses the expected outputs, outcomes and impacts due to the project implementation. The project activity involves forestry management conversion of 23,769.42 ha logged to Protected Forest (LtPF) in Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province of China. The PP and local forestry bureau developed a comprehensive control mode, improve local production conditions and ecological environment, enhance the quality of life, create a good investment and development environment and play a leading and demonstration role.

The expected change includes:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change;

- Improve soil and water conservation and contribute to sustainable development;and

- Provide experience of forest management and risk prevention and control for local stakeholders; and

- Improvement of the biodiversity and ecological environment of the project area and its surrounding area;

-Increase employment opportunities and raise the income level of local residents.

Based on on-site interviewing, and checking the project design against the pre-project status, it is confirmed that the theory of change in the project description is accurate, complete, and provides an understanding of the nature of the project and how it will achieve its climate, community, and biodiversity objectives.

3.2.9 Climate, Biodiversity and Community Benefits Assessment Period (G1.9)

No logging activity is expected in project area during the crediting period and the lifetime of the project is 30 years which is confirmed by reviewing the Project Development Agreement between PP and local village committee. The crediting period is same to the project lifetime which is considered as reasonable based on the project lifetime.

3.2.10 Implementation Schedule (G1.9)

The PD states, and confirmed by the PP during the interview, that the project start date is 01/01/2015. The implementation schedule is as the following:

Date	Milestone(s) in the project's development and implementation	Evidence
12/11/2014	Villager Representative meeting of the project for applying for forestry carbon sequestration project	Village committee Decision for applying for forestry carbon sequestration project
17/11/2014	Stakeholders meeting for explaining the forestry carbon sequestration project	Minutes of Stakeholders meeting
12/2014	Distribution and collection of the project opinion questionnaires	Project opinion questionnaires
10/12/2014	Village committee applied for prohibition against commercial logging	Village committee' application for cessation of commercial logging
18/12/2014	Hongshan Forestry Bureau approved the application for a logging ban provided by village committee	Approval of application for logging suspension was issued by local government,Hongshan Forestry Bureau
01/01/2015	The date of logging suspension (start date of crediting period)	Approval of application for logging suspension was issued by local government,Hongshan Forestry Bureau
06/01/2015	Village committee and Zhong Che signed development contracts for forestry carbon credits projects	Development contracts for forestry carbon credits project
01/2015	Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) report of the project was completed.	Zhong Che conducted PRA-2015
01/2017	Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) report of the project was completed.	Zhong Che conducted PRA-2017
01/2019	Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) report of the project was completed.	Zhong Che conducted PRA-2019
09/2019	On-site VCS validation	
12/2020	Distribution and collection of theCCB questionnaire	Zhong Che conducted CCB questionnaire
10/2021	On-site CCB validation	

Via on-site interview with local forestry bureau and checking all the supporting evidences listed in the table above, it is confirmed that the key dates and milestones in the project's development and implementation are actual.

3.2.11 Risks to the Project (G1.10)

The PD states the overall risks to the project are low, no major risks have arisen that may cause any loss of project benefits for the local community, climate and biodiversity, so that the long-term viability is assured.

Natural risk identified are fire, diseases and insects, pesticide and frost.

Fire risk may increase when the trees grow to a certain age (about 30 years), and the project owner will adopt the necessary measures for fire preventing (such as forest fire protection training and regular inspections). Besides,the local government has also set regulations on forest fire prevention and no fires occurred in the project area since the start of the project activity which is confirmed during the on-site visit and interview with local officers and forest rangers.

The planted trees may would be damaged by insects and disease, but the risk is considered low because it can be prevented by routine overseeing and the diseases will be treated immediately by biological control once occurred. The chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious pest problem erupted in the project area, and the pesticides will be used in accordance with the National Pesticides Policy.

The chemical pesticides are strictly managed by well trained staff to minimize the potential effect. Also, the environmental friendly measures will be adapted such as mixed species arrangement, seed and seedling quarantine. Especially the biological measures to control pests and diseases will be adopted. Therefore, the pesticide application will be limited and the risk is considered low. There was no damage caused by insects and disease since the project operation which is confirmed during the on-site visit and interview with local officers and forest rangers.

According to historic records, frost damage on trees was not common in the project area.Warming measures will be adopted to increase the survival rate. If there are frozen branches found after winter, they will be cut off in spring, which enhances their ability of self-healing and is good for the growth of new leaves and branches.

Human induced risk is identified as illegal logging. The project proponent and local forest bureau will strengthen patrols and education in the project area to prevent illegal logging.

Hence, it is concluded that the risks to the expected climate, community, and biodiversity benefits during the project lifetime are assessed accurately and the mitigation measures included in the PD is deeded as actual via on-site visit and interview with local officers and forest rangers. As per the technical knowledge of the validation team it can be confirmed that the techniques for risk prevention are in accordance with best forest practice.

3.2.12 Benefit Permanence (G1.11)

To maintain and enhance the climate, community and biodiversity benefits, the implementation of the project activity includes the conversion from logged to protected forests.Additionally, CQC checked the Project Development Cooperation Agreement[10] signed between the project

proponent Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd and village committee, which will make sure who would be responsible for the management of the project during the project lifetime. The carbon revenue generated from the project will be shared by PP and the village committee which will be completely used in the implementation and subsequent maintenance of the project, and also the follow-up restoration of the local ecosystem which could maintain and enhance the climate, community, and biodiversity benefits beyond the project lifetime.

The local forestry bureau will take over of the responsibility beyond the project lifetime, and the lifetime of the trees are longer than the project lifetime, the land use agreements[/22/] with the land owner is checked by validation team to confirm the land using is legal and the land using period is longer than the project lifetime, and in addition, according to Approval of application for logging suspension issued by local government,Hongshan Forestry Bureau dated 18/12/2015 and Forest Management and Monitoring Manual[/23/], commercial logging will be forbidden and human interference will be minimized. The measures taken will increase benefits in the project lifetime.

Thus it is concluded that based on the measures taken, the project can maintain and enhance the climate, community, and biodiversity benefits beyond the project lifetime. This is also confirmed by the on-site visit and interview with local officers and project owner.

3.2.13 Financial Sustainability (G1.12)

As declared by the PP during the interview, the initial fund is not sufficient for the continued maintenance of the project therefore, after seriously considered the carbon revenue and thought the revenue could help to mitigate the investment barrier, the village committee authorized PP to conduct the development and implementation of carbon project and the village committee and PP will use the carbon revenue for the continuous management and maintenance of the forest resource.

The project proponent will be responsible for the continuous project implementation, management and maintenance of the forest with the potential subsidy from carbon revenue, by checking the land use agreement and project development cooperation agreement, it is verified that the project financial mechanisms can provide an adequate funds for project implementation to achieve the project's climate, community and biodiversity benefits.

3.2.14 Eligibility Criteria for Grouped Projects (G1.14)

N/A.

3.2.15 Scalability Limits for the Grouped Projects (G1.15)

N/A.

3.2.16 Risk Mitigation Approach for Grouped Projects (G1.15)

N/A.

3.2.17 Land-Use Scenarios without the Project (G2.1)

In the absence of the project, the trees are logged based on government-approved timber management plan for harvesting in the project area. The baseline scenario is the same as the conditions existing prior to the project initiation, continuation of the pre-project land use as the timber harvest plan. This is confirmed by on-site interview with local forestry bureau.,and documents review such as government-approved timber management plan for harvesting .

3.2.18 Most-Likely Scenario Justification (G2.1)

The most-likely land use scenario would be the same as baseline scenario via checking the PRA report and on-site interview. More details please see section 3.2.19.

Hence it is concluded that the most-likely land-use scenario is justified.

3.2.19 Additionality (G2.2)

As stated in the PD, the trees are logged based on government-approved timber management plan for harvesting in the project area prior to the project initiation, the project land are all owned by village committee as confirmed by checking the land use agreement.

China has successively issued a series of laws and administrative regulations related to forestry, such as the Regulations for Implementing the Forest Law/24/, the Regulations for Grain for Green/25/, the Regulations for the Protection of Wild Plants and Animals/26/, the Regulation for Nature Reserve/27/, the Regulation for Forest Fire Control/28/, and the Regulation for Forest Diseases and Pests Control/29/ etc. aimed at providing the guidelines in the forest sector development process (forestry and industry) in order maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits. The project is not required by law which is confirmed by checking above laws and regulations. .

Demonstration of project activity would not have been implemented under the without-project scenario due to significant financial, technological, institutional or capacity barriers is listed in PD.

Climate, community and biodiversity benefits is listed in the section 3.5/3.7/3.8 of this report.

In conclusion, the project benefits would not have occurred in the absence of the project, the additionality of the project activities is confirmed.

3.3 Stakeholder Engagement

3.3.1 Stakeholder Access to Project Documents (G3.1)

The PD is available in English and a summary document of the PD/9/ is available in Chinese version. The full project documentation has been published on VERRA website for public comments. Thus the local communities and other stakeholders can easily download documents from the website. The PP has noticed local stakeholders through the routine villager assembly regarding project listing in VERRA website and has been confirmed by checking the routine

villager assembly record[30] and interview with local residents. Furthermore, the PP will notice local stakeholders through the routine villager assembly regarding every milestones of the project development, including listing, registration, issuance, etc.

In conclusion, the PP has made project documentation accessible to communities and other stakeholders.

During the public consultation period, no comments were received from VERRA websites.

3.3.2 Community Costs, Risks and Benefits (G3.2)

Within the project area a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) survey was made with stakeholder meeting by the PP inviting local residents, permanent workers in the project, forestry experts and government officers to inform people of the possible impact in terms of economics, social and biodiversity aspects that the project might have on the community. This was confirmed by the PPs and by the PRA report provided during the site visit. Via checking the contents in the PRA, it is concluded that the project design details, relevancy and adequacy of the information has been provided to communities, and the analysis of project benefits to communities including all the potential impacts are provided to the stakeholders to let all the participants know the project's potential costs, risks and benefits.

Through interviewing the stakeholders during the site visit, CQC confirmed that the community benefits of the project includes income improvement, job creation, and all the relevant communities are aware of the design concept of the project and have willingness to participate in the project. Therefore, the expected community impacts are all benefit, no potential cost or risk, therefore the net well-being impacts of the project are positive for all identified community groups compared with their anticipated well-being conditions under the without-project land use scenario.

CQC checked the PRA report and records of the stakeholder consultation, and confirmed that the description in PD regarding the the cost, risks, and benefits associated with the project are correct. Additionally, based on the onsite interviewing the local stakeholders, CQC also confirms that the information provided by PP is adequate, and the communities can clearly understand the information provided by PP.

3.3.3 Information to Stakeholders on Validation and Verification Process (G3.3)

As stated before a consultation through PRA with the stakeholders was made for notifying people the project impacts. In particular the PP informed and explained about the means of the validation process through routine villager assembly and posted on local bulletin boards before the validation site visit took place as confirmed by checking the routine villager assembly record and bulletin boards. In addition, by interview with the local stakeholders, it is verified that the mobile phone number of a contact person of PP has been provided and they will call if they have any issues about the project at anytime. This was also confirmed by the PP and interview with local stakeholders during the site visit.

In future, the PP will use same manner to notify communities and other stakeholders of the process for CCB validation and verification process as promised by the PP.

3.3.4 Site Visit Information and Opportunities to Communicate with Auditor (G3.3)

During the on-site visit, the PP arranged a stakeholder meeting by inviting local stakeholders who were informed after the audit plan sent to PP from auditor. Thus it is verified that the communities and other stakeholders were informed of the auditor's site visit before the site visit occurred.

During the site visit on 20-10-2021 and 21-10-2021, CQC validation team had a direct and independent communication with communities and other stakeholders representatives in local forest bureau. During the communications, validation team asked stakeholders representatives several questions, including,

1. General information of the interviewee
2. Do you know the project well?
3. Is the project provided the employment opportunity to you? Permanent or temporary?
4. Is your living or income improved by the implementation of the project?
5. Has any training been provided to you by the implementation of the project?
6. Have you been invited to provide the comments before the project started?
7. Have you been invited to provide the agreement or disagreement with the project start?
8. Do you think your comments have been considered?
9. Do you think the project benefits to the local biodiversity?
10. Have you known the Carbon trade after the implementation of the project?
11. Are you satisfied with the surrounding environmental quality after the implementation of the project?
12. Do you support the project?

All the interviewees give positive reply to all the issues, and they confirmed that many of the local stakeholders from local government and surrounding villages have participated in the stakeholder meeting which was held before the project start, all the participants agree the implementation of the project then the project can be started. Thus it is verified that stakeholders participated in Decision-Making and Implementation of the project.

3.3.5 Stakeholder Consultations (G3.4)

As stated in above sections, a consultation through PRA and meetings with the stakeholders was made for introducing people about the project impacts and ask them to raise their opinions of the project design and their willingness to participate the following implementation. This has been confirmed by checking the PRA and related questionnaires. The stakeholders are invited

to provide their comments regarding the project implementation and impacts on them, also PP considered their participation in decision-making by asking all the participants to fill the questionnaires.

Through checking all the questionnaires[32] and interviewing with the representatives during site visit, it is confirmed that all the participants agreed the implementation of the project, therefore, from that point, the project design was not modified and the project started with local stakeholder's consent.

PP further declares that they will continue communication with stakeholders and monitor the potencial impact on community. This is confirmed during the on-site visit and the interview with the project consultant and local stakeholders. Hence, it is concluded that the project's method for conducting stakeholder consultations is effective.

3.3.6 Stakeholder Consultation Channels (G3.5)

As stated in the PD, the documentation and information regarding the project were made available to the community through routine villager assembly and posted on local bulletin boards in both project listing and validation process, which has been confirmed by checking the routine villager assembly record, bulletin boards and interview with local residents.

During the meetings the main information about the climate change and the carbon market were provided, and all the stakeholders could raise questions and discuss issues they care about with the PP during the meeting directly. This is deemed as the most direct approach for the consultation.

For the continuous communication with the stakeholders, the information of the project was made available to the community through routine villager assembly which is verified as the most efficient channel for the communication by on-site interview with local stakeholders and site inspection of the local villages.

The PP has gone to considerable lengths to consult with local stakeholders and engage them in the project during the project development process. This is was confirmed during the on-site visit and the interview with the local stakeholders. Hence, it is concluded that adequate levels of information sharing has occurred

3.3.7 Stakeholder Participation in Decision-Making and Implementation (G3.6)

As stated in above sections, a consultation through PRA and meetings with the stakeholders was made for introducing people about the project impacts and ask them to raise their opinions of the project design and their willingness to participate the following implementation. This has been confirmed by checking the PRA and related meeting questionnaires. The stakeholders are invited to provide their comments regarding the project implementation and impacts to them, also PP considered their participation in decision-making by asking all the participants to fill the questionnaires.

Via checking all the questionnaires and by interview with the representatives during site visit, it is confirmed that all the participants agreed the implementation of the project, therefore, from

that point, the project design was not modified and the project started with local stakeholder's agreement.

During the project implementation, the local communities and government will play as the direct implementer of the project, and the project proponent will play as coordinator who is in charge of the overall management. All the critical information regarding decision-making will be informed to local stakeholders, and the decision should be revised according to further discussion in case there is any feedback from stakeholders.

Due to the nature of stakeholders, the communication and participation can be considered adequate to the project, and the decision should be revised according to further discussion in case there is any feedback from stakeholders. This is was confirmed during the on-site visit and the interview with the local stakeholders. Hence, it is concluded that project proponent have been and will enable effective participation in culturally appropriate and gender sensitive manner with all communities.

CL02 was raised and successfully closed, Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

3.3.8 Anti-Discrimination Assurance (G3.7)

As stated in the PD and confirmed by the PP during the interview, according to Labor Law of the People's Republic of China[/33/], it is illegal to discriminate on grounds of race, nation, sex or religion. The project owner will obey the Labor Law of the People's Republic of China and have established the anti-discrimination rules in the implementation of the project, including providing equal job opportunities for any qualified workers regardless their gender, race, nation or religion, no extra requirement for women or minorities, and equal pay for equal work, etc. All the rules have been emphasized during staff training sessions. And there is a grievance and redress procedure in case of any discrimination occurred, anyone could report to the project proponent follow the relevant procedure.

Both the project proponent and the project developer are not involved in or complicit in any form of discrimination or sexual harassment with respect to the project, due to the labor contract was signed based on the <Labor Law of the People's Republic of China> with anti-discrimination assurance. <Labor Law of the People's Republic of China> is the national law to protect the legitimate rights and interests of workers, the clause 12 in this law is related to anti-discrimination assurance. Thus this law as specific policy is put in place by the project proponents to prevent discrimination, thus it is assured that the project proponent and all other entities involved in project design and implementation will not violate the standard's anti-discrimination requirement.

The stakeholder involvement was inclusive without any discrimination of gender, cultural identity and religion. The own policies guarantee that no type of discrimination is tolerated at any point of the project development.

CQC checked the relevant training records, employment contract and payrolls of workers, the Labor Law and also interviewed the stakeholders who participated in the implementation of the project during the site visit, and confirmed that Anti-Discrimination could be assured.

3.3.9 Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure (G3.8)

The PD describes a grievance redress process: In case of any conflicts and grievances, stakeholders can either appeal through village representatives or directly to the local forestry bureau, which is the most effective ways to solve the problems. CQC checked the Communication and Feedback Mechanism[/34/] established by Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co. Ltd, and confirms feedback and grievance redress procedure had been established.

In addition, by interview with the residents, they confirm that they can either appeal through a specific staff in charge of recording and collecting conflicts and grievances or directly to the local forestry bureau for their comments to the project.

Employed forest rangers will play an important role in dealing with common conflicts and grievance. Upon receipt of the patrolman's report, the project owner will contact and discuss with the relevant community or other stakeholders within 3 days. The specific staff member shall propose a solution and mediation plan within one week based on all the information collected by the relevant parties, and the conflict shall be handled within 30 days.

In conclusion, the feedback and grievance redress procedure is properly addressed.

3.3.10 Worker Training (G3.9)

Via checking the training records and interview with the workers of project, it is verified that technical advice and technical training are offered continuously for workers for different skills like seed and seedling selection, nursery management, site preparation, planting models and integrated pest management. The training are normally composed by field training as confirmed by checking the training records.

At the time of the validation, 5 times training has been provided to workers related to tending skills,management as well as knowledge regarding carbon sink and forest. Workers are properly trained and maintain a high level of skills which is confirmed by interview with the workers of project.

CL04 is raised requiring the PP to provide evidence that the orientation and training meet the requirements of G3.9.

3.3.11 Community Employment Opportunities (G3.10)

During the onsite visit, PP stated that it was given an equal opportunity without any discrimination of age, sex, marital status, ethnicity, social status or religious convictions, political ideas or sexual orientation, and in compliance with the local law. Priority is given to hiring women to participate in project activities.

During the project implementation, the total number of the local villagers who participated in planting are about 1800 and of which 60% are women who are employed as project management worker. CQC validation team confirms that local communities will be given an equal opportunity to get work positions if the job requirements are met through interview with

local stakeholders(such as local forestry bureau) and review the payrolls and employment contract between PP and workers.

Thus it is concluded that project provides equal employment to people from communities.

3.3.12 Relevant Laws and Regulations Related to Worker's Rights (G3.11)

The PD states that the project shall meet or exceed all applicable laws and regulations regarding workers' rights. Relevant law < Labor Law of the People's Republic of China> to which the PPs have to comply is checked by the validation team, this law is confirmed as the national law to guarantee the employment's right, health and safety. The hiring process is governed by the labour code and all workers have a contract in which its duties, rights and laws that protect them are reported. This is confirmed via checking the labor contract and on site interview with local government officer and forest rangers.

3.3.13 Occupational Safety Assessment (G3.12)

The activities that endanger workers are those related to workplace accidents due to the use of dangerous machinery that requires qualified personnel and basic supplies and uniform to prevent accidents and the workers are also trained providing information and practical exercises to prevent any risk. Further, Security Emergency Plan[/36/] with regard to forest fire, production safety accidents, biological disasters and floods has been established.

In conclusion, measures are designed to minimize project related risk.

3.3.14 Project Governance Structures (G4.1)

In order to ensure the development and implementation of the project,Hongshan Forestry bureau,Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd(PP) and Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co. Ltd (VCS&CCB consultant) composed as the expert group as defined into the Forest Management Manual and monitoring manual and confirmed by on-site observation, whose responsibility is to provides professional technique related to monitoring activities to make sure all the monitoring activities meet the requirement of VCS and CCB standards.

Hongshan Forestry bureau,Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd(PP) also established a project working group (covering aspects of carbon sink, ecology, forestry, community, geographic information, etc.) who provide technical support for the project implementation, this has been confirmed by interview with PP and onsite observation.

Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co. Ltd. is the consultant, who prepares the Project Description and monitoring report, assist project proponent to complete the registration of the project, issue and transaction related work.

the responsibility of the local residents and communities is daily supervision and data management during the project implementation while PP and local forestry bureau will oversee the whole working group and provide technical advice and training to rangers during the project

implementation which has been verified by onsite interview with the local officers from forestry bureau and project technicians.

The PD list the project actors and their responsibilities clearly, they all know their own roles and responsibilities by on-site interview.

3.3.15 Required Technical Skills (G4.2)

The PD lists the key technical skills required to implement the project. Via checking the staff list of above actors, it is confirmed that for each individual, experience and education and other qualifications are cited. The PP and team have the skills necessary to implement the project successfully, including community engagement, biodiversity assessment and carbon measurement and monitoring skills.

3.3.16 Management Team Experience (G4.2)

As mentioned above, local Forestry bureau and Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd will play as the expert group (Management team) who is in charge of guiding and coordinating the project's overall implementation and decision-making.

Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co., Ltd. is experienced in carbon measurement and monitoring. Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co., Ltd. has successfully developed many different carbon projects[37], including validation and verification under VCS and CDM standard. These experience will help project proponent to ramp up the capability of project implementing and management.

Hence, it is concluded that the management team have the skills necessary to successfully manage this project so that to achieve the carbon emission reduction and CCB benefits.

3.3.17 Project Management Partnerships/Team Development (G4.2)

During the on site visit, CQC validation team interview the local stakeholders and review the monitoring plan of the project and training record, and confirms that the management team of the project have a lot of experiences in forest project management and carbon project development. PP is in rich experience in forest carbon project organizational management,while Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co., Ltd. is in rich experienced in development of carbon projects and forest project management, community engagement. Local Forestry Bureau will provide instruction of carbon measurement, monitoring and biodiversity assessment, artificial afforestation, forest protection and management, forest damage control and technical training.

Therefore, the project management team and project participants have sufficient experience and skills required by the project.

3.3.18 Financial Health of Implementing Organization(s) (G4.3)

All the project participators are legally registered company in China, and according to the public information listed in National Enterprise Credit Information Publicity System[/38/], none of them were involved in nor complicit in any form of corruption such as bribery, embezzlement, fraud, favoritism, cronyism, nepotism, extortion, and collusion.

Thus, it is concluded that the financial health of the implementing organizations is verified and they can ensure adequate financial support over the project lifetime.

CL03 was raised and successfully closed, Refer to Appendix 3 for details.

3.3.19 Avoidance of Corruption and Other Unethical Behaviour (G4.3)

As legally registered companies, the project proponent and other involved entities have the obligation to comply with relevant regulations, including anti-corruption law. The annual audit by the government makes sure that it operates with full compliance with China law and regulations.

Thus it is concluded that the project is not involved or complicit in any form of corruption.

3.3.20 Commercially Sensitive Information (*Rules* 3.5.13 – 3.5.14)

N/A.

3.3.21 Statutory and Customary Property Rights (G5.1)

According to the "Constitution of the People's Republic of China" and the "Forest Law of the People's Republic of China", the land is village committee property. Local farmers have the right to use the land within the project boundary, and the project owner and forestry department are responsible for the comprehensive implementation and management of the project.

3.3.22 Recognition of Property Rights (G5.1)

According to Project Development Cooperation Agreement, the ownership of the forest land of the project belongs to the local village committee, and the right to use the forest land belongs to the farmers. The local village committee authorized Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd (PP) to invest the development of carbon project. PP and the village have the carbon rights.

3.3.23 Free, Prior and Informed Consent (G5.2)

Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd. and the village committee had signed a carbon sink cooperation and development agreement, which clarifies the forest land rights by all parties during the project crediting period. In addition, the carbon sink afforestation cooperation and development agreement is based on the principle of voluntary and legal. So the project will not encroach uninvited on private property, community property or government property.

CQC checked the PRA report and records of the stakeholder consultations, and also interviewed the stakeholders who participated in the implementation of the project during the site visit, according to all information received, CQC confirmed that no job lost as a result of the project, and no property rights or land of local communities was affected by the project, and all aspects of the free, prior, and informed consent are deemed to be addressed appropriately.

In conclusion, the project is respecting the property rights of the communities..

3.3.24 Property Rights Protection (G5.3)

Prior to the project implementation, the project land use continues to be used as the timber harvest land, the village committee and the villagers voluntarily protect forest instead of logging, villagers who own the forest land have no other forest land outside the project boundary.This is confirmed by on site interview with officers from local forest bureau and local residents.

Thus it is concluded that the project does not result in the involuntary removal or relocation of property rights holders from their lands or territories and do not force rights holders to relocate activities important to their culture or livelihood.

3.3.25 Illegal Activity Identification (G5.4)

Via on site interviewing with local stakeholders, the validation team confirms that there are no illegal activities inside the project area or in neighboring areas; the area is considered as being peaceful and excluded from social conflict. Furthermore, any illegal logging activities will be fined or sentenced to punishment according to Chinese laws, and the forests are preserved by project staff regularly as determined in the Integrated Forest Management Manual, thus it is confirmed no illegal deforestation will be occurred. This is confirmed by on site interview with officers from local Forestry Bureau and local forest rangers.

In conclusion, the project's climate, community and biodiversity impacts will not be affected by the illegal activities.

3.3.26 Ongoing Disputes (G5.5)

Because the project proponent signed a cooperative development agreement, the forest land was developed reasonably and legally, so there is neither ongoing or unresolved conflicts or disputes over rights to lands, territories and resources nor any disputes that were resolved and recorded during the last twenty years..

3.3.27 National and Local Laws (G5.6)

The PD provides an extensive list of national and local laws and regulations, and explains their applicability to the project and the way compliance with the law is achieved by the project where applicable. The laws and regulations are confirmed through checking the public website which has been compared with the actual situation of the project by on-site observation, it is verified that the project is complying with relevant national and local laws and regulations.

3.3.28 Approvals (G5.7)

On 10/12/2014, Village committee apply to Hongshan Forestry Bureau for stopping logging in order to protect the forest. On 18/12/2014, Approval of application for logging suspension was issued by local government,Hongshan Forestry Bureau.which is confirmed by local Forest Bureau during the onsite visit and review the evidences.

Forest conservancy is encouraged by People's Republic of China. According to the National Forest Management Plan (2016-2050)[39], the national forest coverage should reach more than 23.04% in 2020 and more than 26% by 2050.

3.3.29 Right to Claim Benefits (G5.8)

The ownership of the forest land of the project belongs to the local village committee, and the right to use the forest land belongs to the farmers of the village. Local village committee authorizes Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd to develop the carbon project. Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd is the project proponent. The project proponent and local village committee have the right to claim benefits.

3.3.30 Other Programs (G5.9)

Via on-site interviewing and checking the China Certified Emission Reduction (CCER) Website and also CDM,VCS,GS websites, it is verified that the project has neither been registered, nor seek registration under any other GHG programs.

3.3.31 Double Counting (G5.9)

The project is being simultaneously validated through VCS. The issuance of VCUs will ensure the avoidance of double counting as the credits generated from the project will be sold as offsets on VCS.

The issued credits can be tracked to avoid any potential double counting. This is promised by PP as per the declaration.

3.4 Climate

As per CCBS, this section is not required for projects that have met the requirements of a recognized GHG Program.

CQC confirms the project has been approved by VERRA as a VCS project[42]. Thus this section is not required.

3.5 Optional Criterion: Climate Change Adaptation Benefits

N/A.

3.6 Community

3.6.1 Descriptions of Communities at Project Start (CM1.1)

According to the PRA survey, the local villages' energy source is mainly electricity, and a small part of energy comes from purchased coal and the residual agricultural resource such as straw and canola. The demand for firewood is low.The rural population in project zone accounts for 86.21%.. Agriculture is the main income of the local communities in the project zone .

The proposed project activity will create over 1800 employment opportunities regarding forest ranger, tending and management etc. Most employment opportunities will be taken by the local farmers who owns the forest resource/communities involved in the proposed project activity and beyond (whose lands do not fall within the project boundary). Compared with the "without project" scenario, local farmer will participate the project activity such as forest ranger, tending and management etc and could earn salaries from the project implementation.

Interview with local communities indicated that local farmers/communities are usually short of access to skill training and knowledge regarding the Forest protection(such as fire, pest and disease attack). This is one of the important barriers of local communities on their forest resource. In the proposed project activity, the local government and PP will organize the training for local communities

Via on-site interviewing and checking the PRA Report, it is confirmed that the descriptions of communities at project start in the PD is correct and actual.

3.6.2 Interactions between Communities and Community Groups (CM1.1)

The PD states that local communities are mainly village committee, and due to low economic level, the community groups were barely active with low interactions between communities and community groups at the start of the project. It is verified by site visit interviews with the local officer and village committee.

3.6.3 High Conservation Values (CM1.2)

No HCVs was identified related to community well-being in the project zone. It is verified by site visit interviews with the local stakeholders.

3.6.4 Without-Project Scenario: Community (CM1.3)

During the on-site visit and the interview with PP and local stakeholders, it is verified that agriculture is the main income sources of the communities. The communities continue to log trees according to the logging plan approved by the forestry bureau. Continuation of the project land use as the timber harvest plan will have bad effect on the livelihood and well-being conditions of the local communities and community groups under the without-project land use scenario. Logging trees would leads to a reduction in forest cover,while increase the chance of soil erosion. Additonally, logging trees also requires transportation costs, and the incomes from selling wood is much lower than other jobs, such as forest rangers..

All these aspects were also confirmed during the site visit and interviews with the local officer and forest rangers, who works in the local area and knows both the baseline scenario and the project scenario.

Thus CQC concludes the Without-Project Scenario in PD are accurate.

3.6.5 Expected Community Impacts (CM2.1)

The PD states that the project will generate positive community impacts through improve living conditions and environment, increasing local job opportunities, household income and living level so that to provide actual direct benefits to community group-local villages.

The analysis of the net benefits to the communities is conducted to each category of local residents. CQC confirms the assumptions and rationale employed for the analysis is reasonable.

Hence, it is concluded that all the expected impacts for each community identified in the project description has been addressed.

3.6.6 Negative Community Impact Mitigation (CM2.2)

No HCVs was identified related to community well-being in the project zone thus there is no negative well-being impacts on community groups.

3.6.7 Net Positive Community Well-Being (CM2.3, GL1.4)

The main source of income for communities associated with the agricultural project zone. Their methods of production are backward,and agricultural production is also low. The project will benefit both economically, environmentally and socially.

Income improvement: During the project period, the net income generated by the project includes employment and labor income as well as carbon trading income.

Job creation: The project will provide permanent and temporary employment opportunities. Most of the work will belong to local farmers involved in the project.

Enhance social cohesion: Forest management will form a close interaction between individuals, which will strengthen communication between communities and local governments, communities and communities.

Technical training and demonstration: The community generally lacks fire protection, forest pest control, forest management. The project is organized by the local forestry bureau to help farmers understand and evaluate problems in the implementation of the project, such as forest management, land preparation model, pest control.

The project transforms the ecological benefits into the benefits of the people's livelihood.

After the project is implemented, it can increase the area of green space and beautify the environment, which will not lead to deforestation and obstruction projects.

In summary, the relevance of the project area does not have a negative impact on the high value of protection. Via checking the project design comparing with the Community Baseline Survey, it is verified that the expected changes is reasonable and can be achieved.

3.6.8 High Conservation Values Protected (CM2.4)

No HCVs was identified related to community well-being in the project zone thus none of the HCVs related to community well-being will be negatively affected by the project.

3.6.9 Impacts on Other Stakeholders (CM3.1)

No potential negative offsite stakeholder impacts have been identified. In contract the project will bring benefits to the offsite communities, like providing additional employment opportunity, improving local environment, as well as mitigating the impacts of climate change on the project zone.

3.6.10 Mitigation of Negative Impacts on Other Stakeholders (CM3.2)

There is no negative well-being impacts on other stakeholders.

3.6.11 Net Impacts on Other Stakeholders (CM3.3)

Project will have no negative impacts within and beyond the project zones. Besides, it will increase the income of the local communities and bring positive environmental benefits. Therefore, this project will not create negative impacts on the other stakeholder groups.

3.6.12 Community Monitoring Plan (CM4.1, CM4.2, GL1.4, GL2.2, GL2.3, GL2.5)

The PP established a community monitoring plan in the PD.

To validate the community monitoring plan, CQC take stepwise as following:

Establishing PRA team: PRA teams will be set up to conduct the PRA process, which consists of project officers, local government officials and technical staff with various background (forestry, sociology and ecology) from Village forest bureau;

Developing SOPs for the field PRA process;

Training: A training workshop will be held for discussing and training of PRA teams in order to ensure all PRA members fully understand the purposes, contents, procedures and specific methods of the PRA field survey;

Preparation: Developing detail PRA field survey plan including responsibility of each member of PRA team; and contacting with relevant project counties, forestry farms, towns/townships and local NGOs and informing them PRA plan.

PRA survey: conducting PRA survey following SOPs.

Methods:

Semi-structured interviews: Interview with key persons,This includes VIP interview, farmer household interview and group interview

- Interviewing of VIP: including villager leaders, distinguished villagers, elder villagers and head of ethnic minority.
- Interviewing of household: Some farmer households will be selected for the interview. The interviewed households shall cover rich household, poor household, new inhabitant household, etc.
- Group interview: Villagers are grouped based on gender, age classes or land use types. The group interviews were conducted together with village meeting.

Questionnaire: Questionnaire forms will be developed and distributed among different stakeholders, including farmer households, village committees, forest farms and forest bureau.

Thus it is concluded that the plan has considered all the possible methods and procedures to monitor the change to the communities. This is was confirmed during the on-site visit and the interview with the local officer and management team.

3.6.13 Monitoring Plan Dissemination (CM4.3)

The monitoring plan and results of every verification will be published on VCS and CCB website which can be easily download by stakeholders. Hard copies of the monitoring plan was distributed among local stakeholders by PP and local forest bureau. At the same time, public notice boards will be used to publicize information regarding how to access to the monitoring plan through internet. Technical staff from PP will also explain the monitoring plan to local farmers, especially to illiterate or under-educated farmers. Also, a contact person with phone numbers will be published in case any stakeholders want to directly contact the project proponent and raise opinions.

3.7 Optional Criterion: Exceptional Community Benefits

3.7.1 Exceptional Community Criteria (GL2.1)

N/A.

3.7.2 Short-term and Long-term Community Benefits (GL2.2)

N/A.

3.7.3 Community Participation Risks (GL2.3)

N/A.

3.7.4 Marginalized and/or Vulnerable Community Groups (GL2.4)

N/A.

3.7.5 Net Impacts on Women (GL2.5)

N/A.

3.7.6 Benefit Sharing Mechanisms (GL2.6)

N/A.

3.7.7 Benefits, Costs, and Risks Communication (GL2.7)

N/A.

3.7.8 Governance and Implementation Structures (GL2.8)

N/A.

3.7.9 Smallholders/Community Members Capacity Development (GL2.9)

N/A.

3.8 Biodiversity

3.8.1 Existing Conditions (B1.1)

Through site visit and checking the PRA report, validation team confirms that ecological structure of Hongshan town where the project is located is destroyed with low biodiversity due to long-term logging prior to the implementation of the project.

3.8.2 High Conservation Values (B1.2)

This area does not involve national or local conservation of High Conservation Values organisms.

3.8.3 Without-project Scenario: Biodiversity (B1.3)

As mentioned above, the without-project land use scenario is continuing the "non-use" of the current land, thus it could be concluded that the biodiversity conditions are expected to remain the same.

3.8.4 Expected Biodiversity Changes (B2.1)

The PD states forest cover of the project zone will be improved due to the project activity, which will directly provide habitats for animals and plants, leading to the increase of animals and plants and improve the local ecological environment. CQC concludes the rational is reasonable and convincible.

Based on the situation of biodiversity within the project zone at baseline scenario, trees in the project area will continue to be cutting down and with low forest cover and biodiversity condition. The main change by the project scenario is to create forest cover of the project area with local native species which has great vitality and adaptation to project zone.

The project is to implement forest protection instead of logging. Therefore the implementation of this project will increase biodiversity of project sites. Project sites will gradually become ecological community with the domain species of tall trees, which will improve the biodiversity, and also can adjust the hydrological cycle, reduce drought and flood risk; promote soil nutrient cycle, improve local micro-climate and other ecological environment.

Therefore it is verified that the project's impact on biodiversity will be overwhelmingly positive when compared to “without project” scenario.

3.8.5 Mitigation Measures (B2.3)

Since no negative impacts are expected on biodiversity to the project implementation confirmed by checking the biodiversity survey report and project design, no specific mitigation measures are identified. The main change by the project scenario is create forest cover of the project area with local native species which has been verified by site inspection.

Therefore, forest management projects can protect the establishment of forest cover, through scientific and reasonable method with no burning and slash, and protect the existing vegetation as much as possible. Therefore, implementation of this project will not decrease biodiversity of project sites.

In addition, forest protection will continue over the whole crediting period , thus it is verified by onsite inspection that the mitigation measures have been designed to improve positive impacts on biodiversity.

3.8.6 Net Positive Biodiversity Impacts (B2.2, GL1.4)

- Stopping logging to protect the forest will enhance communication between wildlife habitats. This will facilitate gene flow through allowing once-isolated wildlife groups to interact and enhance the viability of their populations .

- Illegal poaching activities will decrease because that the project lands are defined for forestry purpose by local government and when the project launches, there will be workers working in the field and forest rangers carrying the monitoring frequently. These could prevent the illegal poachers from going into this area.

- Income will be increased to local communities through the project. This will reduce the chances of local communities resorting to illegal poaching, and hence alleviate conflicts between conservation and economic activities of local communities. Therefore, the“with project ” scenario will produce the net positive biodiversity benefits compared to “without project” scenario.

3.8.7 High Conservation Values Protected (B2.4)

No HCVs was identified related to biodiversity in the project zone thus no HCVs related to biodiversity are negatively affected by the project.

3.8.8 Species Used (B2.5)

During the on site inspection and interview with local stakeholders ,CQC validation team confirms that the project will use native species for the productive activities, such as Oak, Masson Pine, Broad-Leaved Mixed Forest and Coniferous and Broad-Leaved Mixed Forest..

3.8.9 Impacts of Non-native Species (B2.6)

All the planted trees are native species and no non-native species will be introduced into any area affected by the project.

3.8.10 GMO Exclusion (B2.7)

The PPs declared and assured that no GMOs will be used in the project to generate GHG emissions reductions or removals which is also verified by checking the Construction Contract and onsite observations.

3.8.11 Inputs Justification (B2.8)

As justified in PD, the chemical pesticides are allowed to be used only if there is a serious disease problem erupted in the project area, and the pesticides will be used in accordance with the National Pesticides Policy. Biological control agents will be used in the project according to local Pest Control and Prevention Policy.

During this monitoring period, no chemical pesticides and Biological control agents were used in the project area as no insects and disease disaster occurred, which has been confirmed via on site interview and document review.

3.8.12 Waste Products (B2.9)

The waste products resulting from the project activities may include Rubbish and Human waste.

The farmers will regularly clean up plastic, metal, paper and other waste products in the project area. PP will also hire villagers as forest rangers to conduct frequent visits to ensure that waste and waste products are well identified and cleaned.

There may be some waste of people, because there is no toilet on site, the amount will be very small and can be naturally degraded, so no special treatment is required and there is no impact.

3.8.13 Negative Offsite Biodiversity Impacts (B3.1) and Mitigation Measures (B3.2)

The PD states that no potential negative impacts on biodiversity outside of the project zone would resulting from project activities; the project contributes to the conservation of the biodiversity and ecosystem as well as increase the area of the habitat.

3.8.14 Net Offsite Biodiversity Benefits (B3.3)

There are no potential negative offsite impacts on biodiversity, the net effect of the project on biodiversity is positive which is confirmed by interview the local forestry bureau,and checking the biodiversity survey report..

3.8.15 Biodiversity Monitoring Plan (B4.1, B4.2, GL1.4, GL3.4)

The PP established a biodiversity monitoring plan in the PD.

To validate the biodiversity monitoring plan, CQC take stepwise as following:

a. Check the monitoring plan contents

The monitoring indicators are confirmed as consistent with the net positive change which created by the project. Three indicator types which covering PRS (Pressure, State, and Response) scope have been listed. For the State variables, Afforestation area, species of vegetation will be monitored. The monitoring sites for forest cover and vegetation species will be the fixed sample plots for the carbon sink monitoring. And the monitoring frequency is defined as before every verification is confirmed as reasonable.

For the Pressure variables, the risk to the project and the harmful impacts to biodiversity, indicators of fire, insects and disease will be monitored annually through examined by the forest rangers and will be confirmed by local Forest Bureau. Via site inspection and interview with the officer from Forest Bureau, it is verified that the monitoring method and frequency is reasonable.

For the Response variables, forest area under control, recovered from control and trees re-planted will be monitored to reflect the project interventions relevant to biodiversity. These will be monitored annually through examined by the forest rangers and will be confirmed by local Forest Bureau. Via site inspection and interview with the officer from Forest Bureau, it is verified that the monitoring method and frequency is reasonable.

b. Verify the reasonability of the plan

The monitoring variables are listed in the PD, via checking the table, it is verified that PP will set fixed sample plots to monitor the biodiversity change which is confirmed by interview with the management team.

The target monitoring indicators are listed clearly and is confirmed as reasonable. Monitoring frequency is determine as before each verification or annually which is confirmed as reasonable due to the results will be used for each monitoring report for verification. This is confirmed as in line with the verification requirement.

Thus it is concluded that the plan has considered all the possible monitoring variables, methods and frequency to monitor the change to the biodiversity. This is was confirmed during the on-site visit and interview with the management team.

3.8.16 Biodiversity Monitoring Plan Dissemination (B4.3)

The information on dissemination of the monitoring plan regarding to how the monitoring plan and any results will be made publicly available and how summaries will be communicated to the public has been further discussed. The approaches used by PP is confirmed as effective and reasonable.

During site inspection, it is observed that each village have its own public notice boards, many important information was disseminated by these channels, it is verified that local stakeholders can get the access to the monitoring plan, results and summaries through this.

As promised by PP, the monitoring plan, future verification results, the Chinese version summaries will be effectively disseminated to the local stakeholders and their comments will be collected and considered by PP.

3.9 Optional Criterion: Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits

3.9.1 High Biodiversity Conservation Priority Status (GL3.1)

N/A.

3.9.2 Trigger Species Population Trends (GL3.2, GL3.3)

N/A.

4 VALIDATION CONCLUSION

Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co., Ltd. has commissioned the China Quality Certification Centre (CQC) to carry out the validation of the "Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project" in P. R. China. The validation was performed based on CCB Version 3.1 requirements as well as criteria given to provide for consistent project operations, monitoring and reporting.

The review of the project design documentation and the subsequent follow-up interviews have provided CQC with sufficient evidence to determine the fulfilment of stated criteria.

The proposed CCB project activity Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project conducts forestry management conversion of 23,769.42 ha logged to Protected Forest (LtPF) in Hongshan Town, Suizhou City, Hubei Province of China.The VCS IFM methodology VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3 is applied to quantify the GHG removals achieved in this project. In the course of the validation 0 Corrective Action Requests (CARs), 4 Clarification Requests (CLs) were successfully closed.

The review of the project design documentation and additional documents related to baseline and monitoring methodology and subsequent background investigation have provided the CQC with sufficient evidence to validate the fulfilment of the stated criteria.

In detail the conclusions can be summarized as follows:

CQC team confirms all validation activities including objectives, scope and criteria, level of assurance, monitoring and project documentation adhere to CCB Standards version 3.1, CCB Program Rules version 3.1 and the relevant host Village criteria as documented in this report, are complete. CQC team concludes that the “Hubei Hongshan IFM (conversion of logged to protected forest) Project” meets the requirements of CCB Standard.

APPENDIX 1: DOCUMENTS REVIEWED OR REFERENCED

/1/ CCB Standards version 3.1;

/2/ CCB Program Rules, v3.1;

/3/ Program Definitions, v4.0;

/4/ VM0010, Methodology for Improved Forest Management: Conversion from Logged to Protected Forest, Version 1.3 ;

/5/ Tool for the Demonstration and Assessment of Additionality in VCS Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Project Activities " (VT0001 VCS AFOLU Additionality Tool v3.0) dated 01/02/2012;

/6/ The evidence to demonstrate the present and prior environmental conditions of the project area https://baike.baidu.com;

/7/ CCB PD (version 01) ,dated 21/04/2021;

/8/ CCB PD (version 02), 11/12/2021;

/9/ Summary document of the PD dated 21/04/2021;

/10/ Consultant Agreement signed between Zhong Che (Beijing)Environment Energy Technology Development Co., Ltd. and local village committee on 06/01/2015;

Cooperation Development Agreement by local committee, PP and project consultant(Zhong Che) dated 15/02/2019.

/11/ Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) report of the project dated 01/2015,updating once every two years;

/12/ Technical Training Record and safety, carbon sink training held by PP and local Forestry Bureau, and Local village committee in project area in year 2014~2019

/13/ Project Starting Date evidence (Approval of application for logging suspension showed that the IFM start date is 01/01/2015 based on the date when the logging suspended.

/14/ Logging plan from local forestry bureau;

/15/ Meeting minutes on decision for development of the proposed project

/16/ Stakeholder Meeting Notice, and meeting records

/17/ CCB Questionnaires collected dated 12/2014 and 12/2020;;

/18/ Certificate of Forest Rights issued by local Forestry Bureau;

/19/ Land use agreements

/20/ Forest Management and Monitoring Manual in Aug 2015;

/21/ Regulations for Implementing the Forest Law

/22/ Regulations for Grain for Green

/23/ Regulations for the Protection of Wild Plants and Animals

/24/ Regulation for Nature Reserve

/25/ Regulation for Forest Fire Control

/26/ Regulation for Forest Diseases and Pests Control

/27/ Routine villager assembly record

/28/ Certification of land rights issued by local bureau of land resources

/29/ Project Layout including the GIS system and other geographic data;

/30/ Labor Law of the People's Republic of China

/31/ Communication and Feedback Mechanism established by Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co. Ltd, in 01/2015;

/32/ Payroll of Worker involved in project ;

/33/ Security Emergency Plan

/34/ CDM and VCS project list developed by Zhong Che (Beijing) Environment Energy Technology Development Co., Ltd.

/35/ National Enterprise Credit Information Publicity System

/36/ National Forest Management Plan (2016-2050)

/37/ Business License of Zhejiang Zhongzheng Forestry Development Co.,Ltd

/38/ https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/CCB/1935

/39/ Biodiversity Survey Report of the project

/40/ Community Baseline Survey Report of the project

APPENDIX 2: CLARIFICATION REQUESTS, CORRECTIVE ACTION REQUESTS AND FORWARD ACTION REQUESTS

Draft report clarifications and corrective action requests by validation team	Summary of project owner response	Validation team conclusion
CL 01 The details of stakeholder identification and descriptions regarding the rights, interest and overall relevance to the project , including a description of how each stakeholder was identified and their relevance to project activity are not clearly stated in section 2.1.6 of PD (version 01)	More details of stakeholder identification and descriptions have been added to the PD(version 02)	OK. CQC validation team has checked the updated PD, and confirms that relavant information is suffiently . Accepted, **CL 01** is successfully closed.
CL 02 A description of how to ensure stakeholder participating in Decision-Making and keep inform on the implementation of the project is not clearly stated in section of PD (version 01)	Villager will assemble routinely, the communication and participation can be considered adequate to the project, and the decision should be revised according to further discussion in case there is any feedback from stakeholders.	OK. By checking the statement from PP and interviewing with the local stakeholders during site visit, it could be confirmed that stakeholders participate in Decision-Making well and efficiently. The related information has been added in PD (version 02). Accepted, **CL 02** is successfully closed.
CL 03 A description of how to ensure financial health of implementing organization especially ensure adequate financial support over the project lifetime is not clearly stated in section of PD (version 01)	The project participant are legally registered company in China, and is not involved in complicit in any form of corruption and PP prepared fund and potential carbon income to ensure the management of the project. The information above has been added in PD(version 02)	OK. CQC validation team reviewed the business license of PP and the statement from PP. It could be confirmed that the implementation of the project has enough financial support.

Draft report clarifications and corrective action requests by validation team	Summary of project owner response	Validation team conclusion
		The related information has been added in PD (version 02). Accepted. **CL 03** is successfully closed.
CL04 Pls provide evidence that the orientation and training meet the requirements of G3.9.	Technical Training Record and safety, carbon sink training held by PP and local Forestry Bureau, and Local village committee in project area in year 2014~2019 have been submitted to DOE.	CQC checked the Training Abstracts provided by PP, and confirms the capacity buildings for tending and management has been conducted from 2014 to 2019, and as confirmed during on-site interview with local farmers, local capacity and skills for afforestation has been improved. CL04 is closed.