	Validation report form for post-registration changes for Gold Standard project activities **(Version 03.0)**
Complete this form in accordance with the instructions attached at the end of this form.	
BASIC INFORMATION	
Title and UNFCCC reference number of the project activity	Santander and Las Tapias Renewable Energy Project GS ID: 1074
Process track	☐ Prior approval ☐ Issuance ☒ Renewal of crediting period
Version number of the validation report	02.0
Completion date of the validation report	02/06/2021
Type(s) of PRCs	☐ Temporary deviations from the registered monitoring plan, applied methodologies, standardized baselines or other methodological regulatory documents[1] ☐ Corrections ☐ Changes to the start date of the crediting period ☐ Inclusion of a monitoring plan ☐ Permanent changes to the registered monitoring plan, or permanent deviation of monitoring from the applied methodologies, standardized baselines or other methodological regulatory documents ☒ Changes to the project design ☐ Changes specific to afforestation and reforestation project activities
Version number of PDD to which this report applies	Version 16
Project participants	Sustainable Carbon - Projetos Ambientais Ltda. Ladrillera Santander Diaz Muñoz S en C
Host Party	Colombia
Applied methodologies and standardized baselines	Methodology approved under the Gold Standard for Voluntary small scale projects: “Ecologically Sound Fuel Switch to Biomass with Reduced Energy Requirement”, Version 1.0
Mandatory sectoral scopes	Sectoral Scope 1 – Energy Industries (Renewable / Non-renewable Sources)
Conditional sectoral scopes, if applicable	N/A

[1] Other standards, methodologies, methodological tools and guidelines (to be) applied in accordance with the applied(selected) methodologies are collectively referred to as the other (applied) methodological regulatory documents).

Name and UNFCCC reference number of the DOE	Earthhood Services Private Limited (ESPL) (ref E- 0066)
Name, position and signature of the approver of the validation report	 Dr. Kaviraj Singh Managing Director

SECTION A. Executive summary

Brief summary of the project activity

The project activity involves partial fuel switching from mineral coal to renewable biomasses such as sawdust, wood residues and pulp and paper sludge sawdust in two ceramic companies installed in the State of Cundinamarca, Colombia. Thus, GHG emission reduction is achieved.

The project applies the methodology approved under the Gold Standard for Voluntary small scale projects: “Ecologically Sound Fuel Switch to Biomass with Reduced Energy Requirement”, Version 1.0.

The PA contributes to the following SDG Goals:

1. Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy;
2. Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth;
3. Goal 13: Climate action.

Scope of validation

Sustainable Carbon – Projetos Ambientais Ltda. has contracted ESPL to conduct the validation of the renewal of the crediting period of the project activity “Santander and Las Tapias Renewable Energy Project”. Moreover, the DOE will be conducting the validation of this post registration change.

The validation of the Post registration changes is the independent review of the deviations from the project design that have occurred in the GS project activity.

The scope of the validation is to establish/verify that:

- The design change proposed for the project activity (only Santander Ceramic will be part of this project activity and Las Tapias 3 is being voluntary excluded from this PA) is in accordance with applied version of the Gold Standard requirements and applied methodology and tools.

Validation process

The validation of this Post Registration Change is part of the renewal process of this Project Activity. For the details on this process, please refer to the Validation Report to which this report is attached. This Post registration change will be requested combined with renewal request.

Conclusion

Earthood Services Private Limited has performed the validation of the project design change of the GS PA “Santander and Las Tapias Renewable Energy Project”.

The validation team has confirmed that this deviation request complies with all eligibility criteria for the Post registration Changes in the registered GS PA and that the proposed design change aims uniquely inform the current situation of the project activity.

The validation team concluded that the proposed design change complies with all relevant GS procedures/standards/guidance.

SECTION B. Validation team, technical reviewer and approver

B.1. Validation team member

No.	Role	T y	Last name	First name	Affiliation	Involvement in

					(e.g. name of central or other office of DOE or outsourced entity)	Desk/document review	On-site inspection	Interview(s)	Validation findings
1.	Team Leader	IR	Garg	Shreya	Central Office	Y	N	Y	Y
2.	Validator	OR	Garcia	Juan Alberto	Outsourced	Y	Y	Y	Y
3.	Local Expert	OR	Garcia	Juan Alberto	Outsourced	Y	Y	Y	Y
4.	Methodological Expert	IR	Garg	Shreya	Central Office	Y	N	Y	Y
5.	Technical Expert	IR	Garg	Shreya	Central Office	Y	N	Y	Y

B.2. Technical reviewer and approver of the validation report for Post registration Changes

No.	Role	Type of resource	Last name	First name	Affiliation (e.g. name of central or other office of DOE or outsourced entity)
1.	Technical reviewer	IR	Mahala	Deepika	Central Office
2.	Technical Expert	IR	Mahala	Deepika	Central Office
3.	Approver	IR	Singh	Kaviraj	Central Office

SECTION C. Means of validation

C.1. Desk/document review

A desk review was conducted by the validation team that included:

a. a review of the data and information presented to verify its completeness;

b. a review of installed equipment of all Ceramics;

c. A review of all applicable Standards, Guidelines and Procedures related to GS PA.

A complete list of documents/evidences reviewed is included as Appendix 3.

C.2. On-site inspection

This process is being combined with renewal process of this PA. For details, please refer to the section C.2 of the Validation Report to which this report is attached.

C.3. Interviews

This process is being combined with renewal process of this PA. For details, please refer to the section C.3 of the Validation Report to which this report is attached

C.4. Sampling approach

Not applicable as no sampling has been used during the validation

C.5. Clarification requests (CLs), corrective action requests (CARs) and forward action requests (FARs) raised

Areas of validation findings	No. of CL	No. of CAR	No. of FAR
Compliance with PDD form	CL 06[2]	-	-
Temporary deviations from the registered monitoring plan, applied methodologies, standardized baselines or other methodological regulatory documents	-	-	-
Corrections	-	-	-
Changes to the start date of the crediting period	-	-	-
Inclusion of a monitoring plan	-	-	-
Permanent changes to the registered monitoring plan, or permanent deviation of monitoring from the applied methodologies, standardized baselines or other methodological regulatory documents	-	-	-
Changes to the project design	-	-	-
Changes specific to afforestation and reforestation project activities	-	-	-
Others (please specify)	-	-	-
Total	1	-	-

SECTION D. Validation findings

D.1. Compliance with PDD form

Means of validation	The PDD was crosschecked with the “101.1 T PDD” template available at the GS4GG website and with the instructions for filling it out. However, it has been observed that not the latest template has been used. Therefore a CL has been raised.
Findings	CL 06 Not the latest template available in the GS website is being used.
Conclusion	The latest version of the PDD template (Template version 1.2)) available at the GS4GG website has been used. It has been filled out in accordance with the instructions.

D.2. Temporary deviations from the registered monitoring plan, applied methodologies, standardized baselines or other methodological regulatory documents

Not applicable to this Validation

D.3. Corrections

Not applicable to this Validation

D.4. Changes to the start date of the crediting period

Not applicable to this Validation

D.5. Inclusion of a monitoring plan

Not applicable to this Validation

D.6. Permanent changes to the registered monitoring plan, or permanent deviation of monitoring from the applied methodologies, standardized baselines or other methodological regulatory documents

Not applicable to this Validation

D.7. Changes to the project design

Means of validation	This design change is being is requested as the project activity was initially composed by two ceramics: Santander and Las Tapias 3. However the last one,

[2] The CL numbering was taken from validation report to which this report is attached.

	did not monitored its parameters during all previous crediting period and therefore, it is voluntary requesting its exclusion from this project activity. The validation team confirms that, in accordance with Annex A of the Principles and Requirements of GS4GG, additionality, scale, validity of applied methodology, stakeholder consultation, sustainable development criteria and monitoring plan are not affected by this design change as follows *Additionality:* the additionality of the project activity is not affected. During the validation phase, the additionality of each ceramic has been made separately, and therefore, the fact of one of them beign excluded does not affect the additionality of the remaining one. *Scale of the project:* the scale of this project type is defined as Small Scale project as per "GHG Emission reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements", paragraph 5.1.2, where Renewable energy project capacity is < = 15 MW or < = 45 $MW_{thermal}$ [3]. The PA was already being defined as small scale. By excluding one ceramic, the project remains within small scale threshold and therefore the scale is not affected by this change. *Validity/applicability of the applied methodology:* no effect in the applicability of methodology is observed as both ceramics would be monitored independently and there is no minimum installed capacity for the methodology applicabion. Therefore no effect on this matter is observed. *Stakeholder consultation:* The fact of excluding one of the ceramics would not affect the outcomes of the stakeholder consultation . Both ceramics are located far from each other and therefore the affected communities are not the same. *Sustainable development criteria:* The sustainable development parameters will be still measured for Santander Ceramic. Las Tapias 3 Ceramic did not monitored none of its monitoring parameters and therefore is being voluntary excluded from this project activity. There will not be changes in the parameters for Santander Ceramic. *Change in monitoring plan:* the only changes will be that Las Tapias 3 will be excluded from the monitoring plan. No changes in the monitoring plan for Santander will be done. Therefore, the exclusion of Las Tapias 3 does not affect the monitoring plan of the project activity.
Findings	N/A
Conclusion	As per Annex A of the Principles and Requirements of GS4GG, as none of the above items are affected by this change, the Design Change will be carried out combined with Renewal Request as allowed by CDM PCP para 289 and it does not need prior approval in accordance with CDM PS for PA Appendix, paragraph 1)d) as follows: CDM PCP for PA: The project design changes are suitable for being submitted combined with renewal process as the exclusion will be officialy carried out from the start of the next crediting period as per CDM PCP for PA v.02.0 para 289 where it is said: - "The project participants may combine a request for approval of a post-registration change to a registered CDM project activity listed in paragraph 127 above with a request for renewal of crediting period, so that the proposed change can be effective from the first day of the next crediting period CDM PS for PA Appendix para 1)d) "Changes to the project design of a registered CDM project activity that do not adversely impact any of the following (as mentioned by Annex A of Principles and Requirements):

[3] Defined in UNFCCC Project Standard for PA,paragraph 119)a)iii)

	- Applicability and application of methodology and methodological documents - Additionality of PA - Scale of PA The effect on these three items were already assessed above. It was evidenced that none of the above aspects are affected by this change and therefore the change does not need prior approval. Las Tapias 3 Ceramic will not be part of this project activity from the start of this 2nd crediting period on. Moreover, as a result of this change the PP Ruiz Moreno y Cia S en C is being excluded from the PDD. A complementary stakeholder consultation due to design change would be required, as per VVB's opinion, in case addition of site or technology would be implemented. As the design change referred to exclusion of project site, the original stakeholder consultation already comprehended the remaining project site (Santander Ceramic). This conclusion was based on Principles Requirements paragraph 4.1.9 where it is stated that complementary consultation is to be carried out with the stakeholders which were not included in the earlier stakeholders' meeting. Therefore, no complementary stakeholders consultation was needed due to this design change.

D.8. Changes specific to afforestation and reforestation project activities

Not applicable to this Validation

SECTION E. Internal quality control

The assessment of Post Registration Changes that is prepared by validation team is reviewed by an independent technical review team (one or more members) to confirm if the internal procedures established and implemented by ESPL were duly complied with and such opinion/conclusion is reached in an objective manner that complies with the applicable GS rules/requirements.

The technical review team is collectively required to possess the technical expertise of all the technical area/sectoral scope to which the project activity is related. All members of technical review team are independent of the verification team.

During the technical review process, additional findings may be identified or the closed out findings may be opened, which needs to be satisfactorily resolved before the request for issuance is submitted to GS. The independent technical reviewer may either approve the report as such or reject/return the same in such case providing the comments/findings/issues that needs to be resolved by the verification team. The decision taken by the technical reviewer is final and is authorized on behalf of ESPL.

SECTION F. Validation opinion

The following changes were requested during this verification process.

- Permanent design change of the project design where it was excluded the Ceramic Las Tapias 3 from the project activity. Only Ceramic Santander is now part of the PA.

The Design Change will be carried out in accordance with Annex A of the Principles and Requirements of GS4GG, CDM Project Standard of PA and CDM Project Cycle Procedure for PA and it does not need prior approval.

Las Tapias 3 Ceramic will not be part of this project activity from the start of this 2nd crediting period on.

Appendix 1. Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Full texts
BE	Baseline Emission
BM	Build Margin
CAR	Corrective Action Request
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CL	Clarification Request
CM	Combined Margin
CME	Coordinating/Managing Entity
CO_2	Carbon dioxide
CO_2e	Carbon dioxide equivalent
CP	Crediting Period
DNA	Designated National Authority
DOE	Designated Operational Entity
EB	Executive Board
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESPL	Earthood Services Private Limited
FAR	Forward Action Request
GHG	Green House Gas
GSC/GSP	Global Stakeholder Consultation Process
GW	Giga Watt
GWh	Giga Watt hour
INGEOMINAS	Colombian Institute of Geology and Mining (from Spanish - Instituto Colombiano de Geologia y Mineria)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPE	Individual Protection Equipment
KP	Kyoto Protocol
kW	kilo Watt
kWh	kilo Watt hour
LoA	Letter of Approval/Authorization
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy from Colombia
MoC	Modalities of Communication
MoV	Means of Validation
MP	Monitoring Plan
MW	Mega Watt
MWh	Mega Watt hour
OM	Operating Margin
PA	Project Activity
PCP	Project Cycle Procedure
PDD	Project Design Document
PE	Project Emission
PP	Project Participant
PS	Project Standard
tCO_2e	Tonnes of Carbon di oxide equivalent
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VT	Verification Team
VVS	Validation and Verification Standard

Appendix 2. Competence of team members and technical reviewers

Competence Statement			
Name	Shreya Garg		
Country	India		
Education	M.Sc. (Climate Science & Policy), TERI University		
Experience	6 Years +		
Field	Climate Change		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	YES		
Validator	YES		
Verifier	YES		
Methodology Expert	AMS.I.A., AMS.I.C., AMS.I.D., AMS.I.F., AMS.II.D., AMS.II.G., AMS.II.J., AMS.III.AV., ACM0002, ACM0012		
Local expert	YES (India)		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	YES		
TA Expert	YES (TA 1.2, TA 3.1)		
Reviewed by	Abhishek Mahawar	**Date**	01/03/2018
Approved by	Ashok Gautam	**Date**	01/03/2018

Competence Statement			
Name	Juan Alberto Gracia		
Country	Colombia		
Education	Master in sustainability and natural resources		
Experience	20 Years +		
Field	Energy, Climate Change & Environment		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	YES		
Validator	NO		
Verifier	NO		
Methodology Expert	NO		
Local expert	YES (Colombia)		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	NO		
TA Expert	NO		
Reviewed by	Shreya Garg	**Date**	24/09/2020
Approved by	Ashok Gautam	**Date**	24/09/2020

Competence Statement	
Name	Deepika Mahala
Country	India
Education	M. Sc. (Environmental Management), GGSIP University B.Sc. Hons. (Chemistry), Sri Venkateshwar College, DU
Experience	3 Years +

Field	Climate Change		
Approved Roles			
Team Leader	YES		
Validator	YES		
Verifier	YES		
Methodology Expert	ACM0002, AMS.I.D., AMS.I.A, AMS.III.AV, AMS.II.G		
Local expert	YES (India)		
Financial Expert	NO		
Technical Reviewer	YES		
TA Expert	YES (TA 1.2 & TA 3.1)		
Reviewed by	Shreya Garg	**Date**	14/09/2018
Approved by	Anshika Gupta	**Date**	14/09/2018

Appendix 3. Documents reviewed or referenced

No.	Author	Title	References to the document	Provider
1.	UNFCCC	Standard: CDM PS for PA	version 02.0	Others
2.	UNFCCC	Standard: CDM PCP for PA	version 02.0	Others
3.	UNFCCC	Standard: CDM VVS for PA	version 02.0	Others
4.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Principles & Requirements	version 1.2	Other
5.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Safeguarding Principles & Requirements	version 1.2	Other
6.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Community Services Activity Requirements	version 1.2	Other
7.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements	Version 1.2	Other
8.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Key Project Information & Project Design Document (PDD) Template	version 1.2	Other
9.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Principles & Requirements	version 1.2	Other
10.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Safeguarding Principles & Requirements	version 1.2	Other
11.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Community Services Activity Requirements	version 1.2	Other
12.	GS	Gold Standard for the Global Goals Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements	Version 1.2	Other
13.	PP	Project Design Document (draft)	Version 08 03/07/2020	PP
14.	PP	Project Design Document (revised/final)	version 09 – 19/08/2020 Version 10 – 18/09/2020 Version 11 – 19/10/2020 Version 12 – 08/12/2020 Version 13 – 12/02/2021 Version 14 – 15/02/2021 Version 15 – 17/02/2021 Version 16 – 01/06/2021	PP
15.	PP	ER Spreadsheet (draft)	version 1 – 03/07/2020	PP
16.	PP	ER Spreadsheet (final)	Version 11 – 19/08/2020 Version 12 – 27/04/2021 (final)	PP

17.	PP	Registered PDD	version 7 – 05/11/2013	Others
18.	PP	GS Passport	Version 4 – 19/07/2012	Others
19.	Gold Standard	Methodology approved under the Gold Standard for Voluntary small scale projects: "Ecologically Sound Fuel Switch to Biomass with Reduced Energy Requirement"	Version 1.0	Others
20.	TUV NORD	Verification report from 1st monitoring period # 16/198 – 13654	Version 1.0 from 02/06/2017	
21.	Santander	1. Daily production records 2. Stock count from December 2018		PP
22.	Biomass Suppliers	Biomass invoices from all biomass suppliers		PP
23.	Coal Supplier	Coal invoice from all coal suppliers		Others
24.	CAR	Environmental License - Resolution 2688/2016 issued on 16/12/2016 by Corporación Autonoma Regional de Cundinamarca - CAR	Valid until 06/02/2037	PP
25.	Ingeominas	Clay extraction License: License number 21802 issued on 05/06/2006 by Instituto Colombiano de Geologia y Mineria	Valid until 06/02/2037	
26.	PP	Article of incorporation of the ceramic industries and the agreement with Sustainable Carbon - Contract between ceramic Santander and Sustainable Carbon	06/10/2010	
27.		Market assessment regarding common practice of ceramics in Colombia - "Validate inventory of the brick sector in Colombia": This report states that 71% of fuel consumed in the Ceramic is coal in Colombia (data from year 2015 – latest available)	https://www.ccacoalition.org/en/resources/inventory-and-assessment-tool-colombia-black-carbon-and-other-pollutant-emissions-brick	
28.	PP	ODA declaration regarding the non-use of Official Development Assistance by project owner.	19/10/2020	Other
29.	IPCC	IPCC publications	www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp	Other
30.	Gold Standard	GS	https://www.goldstandard.org/	
31.	UNFCCC	UNFCCC	http://cdm.unfccc.int	Other

Appendix 4. Clarification requests, corrective action requests and forward action requests

Table 1. CLs from this validation (the findings numbering is following the Validation report to which this report is attached)

CL ID	06	**Section no.**	D.1	**Date :** 09/02/2021
Description of CL				
Not the latest template available in the GS website is being used.				
Project participant response				**Date :** 17/02/2021
The latest template version has been applied.				
Documentation provided by project participant				
GSPDD_SantanderandLasTapias_v15				
DOE assessment				**Date:** 23/02/2021
It has been observed that the template version 1.2 has been applied in this project activity, which is the latest available in the GS website. **CL is closed**				

Table 2. CARs from this validation

CAR ID	xx	**Section no.**		**Date:** DD/MM/YYYY
Description of CAR				
Not applied				
Project participant response				**Date:** DD/MM/YYYY
Documentation provided by project participant				
DOE assessment				**Date:** DD/MM/YYYY

Table 3. FARs from this validation

FAR ID	xx	**Section no.**		**Date:** DD/MM/YYYY
Description of FAR				
Not applied				
Project participant response				**Date:** DD/MM/YYYY
Documentation provided by project participant				
DOE assessment				**Date:** DD/MM/YYYY

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Document information

Version	*Date*	*Description*
03.0	31 May 2019	Revision to: • Ensure consistency with version 02.0 of the "CDM validation and verification standard for project activities" (CDM-EB93-A05-STAN); • Make editorial improvements.
02.0	31 October 2017	Revision to align with the requirements in the "CDM validation and verification standard for project activities" (version 01.0).
01.0	23 March 2015	Initial publication.

Decision Class: Regulatory
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