

QUALITY REPORT

Soil Carbon Improvement Project through Grassland Management, in South Africa

VCS-2710 · VCS · South Africa

Report ID: CM-CB6349B2 · Generated: 2026-04-23 · Scoring Methodology: General v2.0

5.3 Overall Score out of 10	■ Integrity (35%)	5.2
	■ Transparency (25%)	6.0
	■ Claim Safety (25%)	4.8
	■ Documentation (15%)	5.0

Weights: Integrity 35% · Transparency 25% · Claim Safety 25% · Documentation 15%

Assessment Summary

The project shows some positive integrity features (VVB confirmation of additionality, an 18% buffer pool, recent monitoring), but important gaps remain: leakage is not consistently addressed, numerous corrective actions were required, and several monitoring/ERR figures are not reported. Overall, documentation is adequate but reliability concerns reduce claim safety and integrity.

Project Details

Registry	Verra (VCS)
Registry ID	VCS-2710
Sector	soil_carbon
Country	South Africa
Vintage	2022
Project Methodology	VM0026 1.1
Crediting Period	2018 — 2038
VVB	4K Earth Science
Monitoring Period	2018 — 2022
Confidence	High
Documents Reviewed	13 documents reviewed
Scored	2026-04-23

Red Flags

- Leakage treatment not addressed in the most recent validation/monitoring documents
- 27 corrective actions plus clarification/forward action requests indicate data reliability issues
- Key emission reduction/removal figures (total ERR claimed/verified) not provided

Score Breakdown

Integrity — 5.2 / 10

+ Additionality confirmed by the VVB (validation report)

- Leakage not addressed in the latest validation/monitoring documents and baseline reassessment not found

The validation report confirms additionality via a barriers test (validation report), and the project holds an 18% buffer pool which supports permanence. However, the project uses a project-specific baseline (method VM0026, baseline described as project) and there is no evidence the baseline has been recently reassessed. Leakage treatment is inconsistent across documents and not clearly applied in the most recent validation, which weakens the baseline/leakage integrity. Corrective actions (27 items and other requests listed in the monitoring report) further reduce confidence in robustness.

Transparency — 6.0 / 10

+ Named VVB (4K Earth Science) and recent monitoring period reported (monitoring report 2025-09-20)

- Core reported quantities such as total removal/ERR claimed and verified are not found in available documents

Transparency is middling: the VVB (4K Earth Science) is named and a monitoring period is provided (monitoring report, 2018-07-01 — 2022-12-31). The monitoring report is recent (2025-09-20). However, key numeric outcomes—total removals/ERR claimed and verified—are not stated in the extracted record, and usage/monitoring methods for activity rates are not provided, which limits external verification.

Claim Safety — 4.8 / 10

- Project-specific baseline (project method) increases over-crediting risk compared with jurisdictional baselines

~ Mixed evidence on leakage (earlier validation said 'deemed negligible' but later documents say 'not addressed')

Claim safety is moderate-to-low. The project uses a project-specific baseline which raises over-crediting risk compared with jurisdictional baselines. Leakage justification is contradictory (earlier validation said leakage was deemed negligible; the later validation/monitoring materials state leakage is not addressed), increasing uncertainty about potential leakage and credits issued. CORSIA eligibility is false, which reduces one double-claim risk, but CCP status is not stated.

Documentation — 5.0 / 10

+ Multiple documents used (PDD, validation report, monitoring report) and high extraction confidence

- Large number of corrective actions (27) plus clarifications indicate outstanding issues to resolve

Documentation coverage is adequate in quantity (9 documents referenced, including PDD, validation and monitoring reports) and extraction confidence is high. The monitoring report is recent (2025-09-20). Nevertheless, there are many corrective actions and clarification requests outstanding from the verification process, and several important fields remain unreported in the extracted record, indicating incomplete or unresolved documentation issues.

Risk Indicators

● Additionality	VVB-confirmed barriers test
● Permanence	buffer pool present but corrective actions pending
● Leakage	not addressed in latest validation
● Baseline	project-specific baseline
● Safeguards	FPIC and grievance reported
● Double-claim	not CORSIA-eligible

What Would Improve This Score

- Provide quantified total removals/ERR claimed and verified in the monitoring report and registry entries
- Resolve the 27 corrective actions and publish evidence of corrective actions closed; explicitly document leakage assessment and any leakage deduction

Documents Reviewed

- ERR Calculation Spreadsheet
- Monitoring Report
- Total Project area_2710_QGIS.kml
- Non-permanence risk report
- Project Description
- Listing Representation
- Draft Project Description
- Validation Report
- Verification Report

Disclaimer

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