



Process for Review, Suspension, or Withdrawal of Methodologies Under the UK Carbon Code of Conduct

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1. Introduction

This document outlines the process for the review, suspension, or withdrawal of methodologies under the UK Carbon Code of Conduct (UKCCC). This process ensures that greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions and removals meet the expected standards and comply with the UKCCC guidance for corporate claims, especially concerning additionality and permanence.

2. Identification of Issues

Trigger Events:

- Discrepancies between reported results and independent verification results.
- Evidence from Interested party observations or reports indicating non-compliance or overestimation.
- Complaints or alerts raised by stakeholders or the public.

3. Preliminary Assessment

Steps:

1. **Notification:** The UKCCC Commissioner receives notification or identifies a potential issue with a methodology.
2. **Initial Review:** Conduct a preliminary assessment to determine if a full review is warranted. This includes:
 - Gathering relevant data and reports.
 - Consulting with initial methodology developers and users.
 - Reviewing previous verification and monitoring reports.

4. Comprehensive Review

Procedure:

1. **Formation of a Review Panel:** Assemble a panel including technical experts, a member from the UKCCC, and an independent third-party expert.



2. **Investigation:** Conduct a thorough investigation to assess the validity of GHG reduction claims, focusing on:
 - Compliance with UKCCC standards.
 - Accuracy and reliability of data and methodologies used.
 - Adherence to publicly stated objectives and additionality criteria.
3. **Interested party Input:** Solicit input from all interested parties, including project developers, environmental groups, and affected communities.

5. Decision-Making

Outcomes:

1. **No Issues Found:** If the methodology is confirmed to be compliant, continue its use and possibly enhance monitoring protocols.
2. **Minor Issues Found:** Implement corrective actions with specific deadlines and follow-up verification.
3. **Major Non-Compliance or Misrepresentation:**
 - **Suspension:** Temporarily suspend the use of the methodology until corrective measures are implemented and verified.
 - **Withdrawal:** Permanently withdraw approval of the methodology if it is fundamentally flawed or if corrective measures are deemed insufficient or infeasible.

6. Implementation of Decisions

Implementation Steps:

1. **Notification:** Inform all users and stakeholders of the decision.
2. **Guidance on Transition:** For suspended or withdrawn methodologies, provide guidelines on transitioning to alternative approved methodologies.
3. **Update Public Records:** Update the UKCCC's public listings to reflect the status of the methodology.

7. Monitoring and Compliance

Ongoing Monitoring:

- Regularly review the performance and compliance of revised methodologies.
- Conduct random audits of projects using the methodologies to ensure ongoing compliance.
- Establish a feedback mechanism for continuous improvement based on operational experiences and technological advancements.



8. Appeals Process

Appeals:

- Allow for an appeal process where the methodology developer or users can contest the decision.
- Set up an appeals Committee consisting of different members from the original review panel to ensure impartiality.
- The UKCCC shall define clear procedures and timelines for submitting appeals and making final decisions.

9. Documentation and Reporting

Documentation Requirements:

- Maintain comprehensive records of all reviews, decisions, and communications.
- Publicly disclose summaries of review findings and decisions to maintain transparency and accountability.

10. Review and Update of the Process

Periodic Review:

- Regularly review and update the review process itself to incorporate lessons learned, changes in technology, and evolving international standards and best practices.

This structured process ensures that methodologies under the UKCCC are robust, transparent, and deliver on their intended environmental benefits, while also providing mechanisms for correction and continuous improvement.