CDM: Response form for Request for revision of approved methodologies (version 01.1)

Date of Meth Panel meeting:	18 - 22 January 2010
Title and number of Request for revision	Possibility to include wastewater solids that are separated from the wastewater to prevent open lagoon clogging and therefore have a different baseline, in a scenario 1 type anaerobic digester wastewater treatment project AM_REV_0174

Summary of the query:

Please use the space below to summarize the request for revision on the related approved methodologies.

ACM0014 "Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions from treatment of industrial wastewater" is applicable to project activities that aim at reducing methane emissions from industrial wastewater treatment.

The request for revision aims at expanding the applicability of the methodology to cases where solid materials may not be released into open lagoons but have a different aerobic or anaerobic baseline treatment.

The request amends the following, in particular:

Applicability: Inclusion of solid materials is only applicable to a Scenario 1 type project, where a new anaerobic digester is installed to treat industrial wastewater. The scenario 1 is amended to add: In case there are solid materials these may not be released into open lagoons but have a different aerobic or anaerobic baseline treatment.

Baseline emissions: The solid materials can have different baseline scenarios, which may or may not contribute to baseline methane emissions. The revision proposes 3 possible baseline scenarios for which this methodology is applicable.

Project emissions: The inclusion of solid materials in the biogas digesters leads to additional project emissions. These are all captured under the existing equations in ACM0014.

Leakage: The inclusion of solid materials in the project activity may lead to leakage emissions in the case of displacement of animal fodder. The proposed revision provides procedures to calculate leakage emissions in such cases.

Recommendation by the Meth Panel:

(a) Please use the space below to provide amendments /changes (in your expert view, if necessary).

Please, refer to the box below.

(b) Please use the space below for providing guidance, as per Para 93 of EB25 Report, on what type of projects need to revise the PDD as a consequence of the suggested revision, if the recommendation is to revise the methodology.

Please, refer to the box below.

Answer to authors of the request for revision by the Meth Panel :

Please use the space below to provide an answer to the authors of the above query

The Methodologies panel recommends not to approve the request for revision. The issues are pined as under:

Applicability of the methodology and its relevance to the available solid separation techniques

1. The submitted proposal is unclear on the type/technology of the solids separation that could be applicable to use the underlying methodology, i.e. what types of mechanical solid/liquid separation technologies (e.g., stationary, vibrating or rotating screens, centrifuges, hydro cyclones, and press systems/screws) are applicable under scenario 1 is unclear in the submission.

2. A clear definition on the "solid materials" applicable under this methodology needs to be provided. It is unclear from the submission whether or not the solid separation involves only the volatile solids or even involves non-volatile solids.

3. It is unclear from the submission whether the technology applied for the solids separation achieve a minimum dry matter content of separated solids larger than 20% or not.

4. It is also unclear from the submission that whether any flocculent chemicals will be added with the waste water to improve the efficiency of the mechanical solid-liquid separation process?

5. Whether the revision allows separation of solids only using mechanical means or it also allows gravity settling is unclear?

Baseline Emissions

The baseline emission on account of methane avoidance are considered to be as zero if it cannot be demonstrated that solids separated from the liquid are dumped or left to decay under clearly anaerobic conditions to deep landfills with a depth of more than 5 meters, which is appropriate, nevertheless the underlying submission also try to claim baseline emission reductions on account of the additional energy generated from the separated solid waste using a new anaerobic digester. This approach proposed in the revision is not appropriate as it may lead to over estimating the baseline emissions. The reasons are as specified below:

1. The solid materials that are presently being treated in aerobic conditions in the baseline are going to be treated in anaerobic manner, so this is a shift in pre-project activity where an output service delivery is interchanged (animal fodder to energy).

2. Scenario 1 of the existing methodology ensures that in the baseline situation the waste water is directed to open lagoons that have clearly anaerobic conditions, whilst the proposed project activity shifts the solid waste present in the liquid effluent that are treated in aerobic conditions in the baseline to anaerobic, which is in contradiction to the baseline requirement of the existing methodology.

Leakage emissions

1. The proposed revision does not provide sufficient technical guidance or back up documentation to support the proposed default factor 1 tCO_2/ton of dry matter as leakage emissions.

2. The approach L2 provided in the proposed revision to rule out leakage emission using the information from the suppliers of the solid materials in the region of the project activity is not appropriate as it is not possible to validate/verify the situation.

Possible solution

The project participants are encouraged to submit a revised proposal after incorporating the following issues along with addressing the issues identified above.

1. Provide procedure on how to estimate the baseline emission on account of energy generation where in it is not possible to directly measure the energy generated using biogas generated from liquid effluent as other biogas sources which are not a part of the methodology are used along with the biogas generated from liquid effluent for energy generation, for example measuring biogas quantity and its methane fraction from both the sources and then discounting the solid portion from the total energy generation.
2. Make the methodology applicable only to project activities involving solid separation from liquid effluents with a pre-described solid separation techniques and retention time.
3. Considering a baseline emission value of Zero for all revised scenarios (solid waste) listed in the revised methodology.
4. Consider both the project emission and leakage emission without accounting for the baseline emission on account of both methane avoidance and energy generation.

Signature of Meth Panel Chair ……..
Date: 22/01/2010 *(Philip Gwage)*

Signature of Meth Panel Vice-Chair ……..
Date: 22/01/2010 *(Pedro Martins Barata)*

Information to be completed by the secretariat	
F-CDM-AM	AM_REV_0174
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