



CDM: Response form for request for clarification on Approved Methodologies (version 01.1)

<i>Date of Meth Panel meeting:</i>	21 - 25 June 2010
<i>Title and number of request for clarification</i>	Clarification regarding the applicability condition n°5 of ACM0018 version 01 (biomass preparation) AM_CLA_0180

Summary of the query:

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

The approved methodology ACM0018 “Consolidated methodology for electricity generation from biomass residues in power-only plants” is applicable to project activities that generate electricity in biomass residue (co-)fired power-only plants. Emissions reductions result from the substitution of more carbon intensive power generation technologies mainly based on fossil fuels by less carbon intensive ones mainly based on biomass residues.

The types of biomass eligible under the methodology are described in the applicability conditions:

- No other biomass types than biomass residues, as defined below, are used in the project plant;
- Biomass residues are defined as biomass that is a by-product, residue or waste stream from agriculture, forestry and related industries. This shall not include municipal waste or other wastes that contain fossilized and/or non-biodegradable material (however, small fractions of inert inorganic material like soil or sands may be included);
- Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) may be used in the project plant but all carbon in the fuel, including carbon from biogenic sources, shall be considered as fossil fuel.

Furthermore, the methodology states that:

- No significant energy quantities, except from transportation or mechanical treatment of the biomass residues, are required to prepare the biomass residues for fuel combustion, i.e. projects that process the biomass residues prior to combustion (e.g. esterification of waste oils, gasification, etc.) are not eligible under this methodology.

The request seeks clarification as to whether:

- (1) Project activities using pelletization, torrefaction and controlled pyrolysis to treat the biomass used in the project activity are eligible under the methodology;
- (2) Pelletization, torrefaction or pyrolysis are applicable to biomass residues sold prior to project implementation and the part of biomass residues sold during project operation.

Recommendation by the Meth Panel:

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

Not applicable, see below.

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

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

With respect to query (1) above, the methodologies panel clarifies that project activities using pelletization, torrefaction and controlled pyrolysis to treat the biomass residues used in the project activity are not eligible under the methodology. All of those treatment methods do not comply with the applicability condition (see above) which excludes biomass residues that undergo treatment before use which require significant energy quantities. The reason for that exclusion is that the methodology does not address potential emissions arising from the treatment of biomass residues and therefore would underestimate project emissions in case significant emissions take place. The panel recognizes though that those treatment processes could be included in the approved methodology if the methodology is revised, which should be proposed through a request for revision.

With respect to query (2) above, the methodologies panel clarifies that there is no restriction in the applicability conditions of the methodology concerning the fate of biomass residues that are not used by the project activity (i.e. biomass residues sold prior to the implementation of the project activity and during project operation). Therefore, in principle, pelletization, torrefaction and pyrolysis can be used in the biomass residues sold prior to the implementation of the project activity and to the surplus amounts sold during project operation. It is noteworthy however that the use of biomass residues by the project activity which were previously used may characterize diversion of biomass residues from prior use and result in leakage emissions. That fact should be properly assessed as described in the “Procedure for the selection of the baseline scenario and demonstration of additionality” of the methodology.

Signed by the Chair, Mr. Lex de Jonge

Date: 16/06/2010

Signed by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Philip Gwage

Date: 16/06/2010

Information to be completed by the secretariat

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