



CDM: Recommendation Form for Small Scale Methodologies (version 01)
(To be used for presenting questions/proposals/amendments to the simplified methodologies for small-scale CDM project activity categories)

Date of SSC WG meeting:	16–19 August 2010, SSC WG 27
Title/Subject (give a small title or specify the subject of your submission, maximum 200 characters):	Consideration of biomass briquettes as one biomass type
Indicative methodology to which your submission relates (refer the items of Appendix B of the Simplified Modalities and Procedures), if applicable.	AMS-I.C “Thermal energy production with or without electricity”
Name of the authors of the query:	Werner Betzenbichler Institution: Sindicatum Carbon Capital ccsecretariat@carbon-capital.com , werner.betzenbichler@carbon-capital.com

Summary of the query:

Please use the space below to summarize the query related to SSC methodologies/categories SSC Modalities and Procedures provide recommendation/analysis of the SSC WG.

Original text from PP:

Brief description of the project activity:

The project consists of the implementation of more than 3,000 biomass combined stoves and heaters (henceforth “stoves”) in rural households in China. The baseline of this activity is the use of coal fired applications. The project stoves will be fuelled by biomass briquettes, which will be produced from biomass residues (mainly corn residues, wheat straw and cotton stalks), available in huge excess in the project area. Collected biomass residues will be delivered to briquette plants, processed into briquettes and distributed to the individual project households. No additives will be used in the production of the briquettes.

In order to demonstrate compliance with paragraph 11 of AMS-I.C. version 17, i.e. to demonstrate that the briquettes are produced solely by renewable biomass (here biomass residues available in excess), a mass balance at each briquette plant covering the incoming biomass residues (separately for each residue type) and the outgoing briquettes will be applied. Thus, data on incoming biomass (mass, moisture content) will be available for each type of residue individually, while data records on outgoing biomass consist of the mass and moisture content of briquettes delivered to the consumers.

It is expected that, during the processing of the briquettes, there may be some mixing of biomass residues. Hence, the project participants propose monitoring the biomass consumption based on briquette deliveries to households without further separation into different briquette types (like corn briquettes, wheat briquettes etc.) as it would be difficult and costly to control the purity of such subcategories. Such a demand would require more storage space for several stockpiles, the need for several sets of or mobile option for processing equipment, as well more time demand and human resources. The possible variations in briquette quality (NCV and moisture content) resulting from changes of ingredients will be reflected in an appropriate sampling frequency (e.g. fortnightly during heating season) when determining weighted averages for the related parameters.

Request for clarification:

Within the monitoring section (page 17) of the methodology the following requirement for parameter # 7, $B_{\text{Biomass},y}$ is given: *“If more than one type of biomass fuel is consumed, each shall be monitored separately”*.

We ask for clarification on what can be considered as an individual “type of biomass fuel” once biomass residues have been processed to briquettes? Can biomass briquettes be considered as one type of biomass, and therefore, only parameters (mass, moisture content, NCV) of biomass briquettes need to be monitored without any further separation to briquette types?

Rationale:

Without consideration of biomass briquettes (made from renewable biomass residues) as one biomass type the project activity would face potentially insurmountable constraints in implementation, as the separation in storage, processing, and distribution according to the incoming residue type will create considerable costs and require detailed and time-consuming advertence by briquette plant personnel. Furthermore it is expected that during verification there might be difficulties to prove purity in an ex-post assessment, in case separation into briquettes types is required.

Therefore the consideration of biomass briquettes as one type of biomass fuel will ease the monitoring of the project, without reducing the accuracy of the monitoring results. Recording residues before processing will enable the demonstration that biomass is from renewable types only, while recording biomass consumption based on briquettes consumption will even deliver more accurate figures as it phases out any potential losses during processing. The fact that there might be a higher variation of briquette quality parameter (moisture content and NCV) when not separating the processed residues can be balanced by increasing the monitoring frequency of these parameters. Thus, there will be no loss in the reliability of reported data, while the verifiability of the project activity can even be improved.

Recommendation by the SSC WG:

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

Please refer to paragraph 17 of the meeting report of the SSC WG 27 (http://cdm.unfccc.int/Panels/ssc_wg).

Answer to authors of query by the SSC WG:

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

The small-scale working group of the CDM Executive Board would like to thank the author for the submission.

The SSC WG agreed to clarify that biomass briquettes composed of various biomass residues can, in principle, be treated as one type of biomass in the context of AMS-1.C ver 17. However, the SSCWG is of the opinion that a specific procedure in the methodology would be required in order to demonstrate that the project proponents can adequately control and monitor the mass and moisture content of the biomass residues used in the briquette production process, and accurately determine the composition, mass, moisture content and NCV of the resulting briquettes.

In addition, a monitoring procedure would also be needed to ensure that the quantity of briquettes delivered to household are *consumed* by the project cookstoves.

The SSC WG agreed to consider developing a monitoring procedure to cover the specific case of briquette manufacturing and consumption as a fuel in household applications.

Signed by the Chair, Mr. Peer Stiansen

Date: 19/08/2010

Signed by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Hugh Sealy

Date: 19/08/2010

Information to be completed by the secretariat

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