



## 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)*

<i>Date of SSC WG meeting:</i>	11 - 13 February 2008, SSC WG 14
<i>Title/Subject (give a small title or specify the subject of your submission, maximum 200 characters):</i>	Revision of AMS III.E to enable applicability of project activities involving controlled anaerobic digestion of biogenic waste for power generation
<i>Indicative methodology to which your submission relates (refer the items of Appendix B of the Simplified Modalities and Procedures), if applicable.</i>	AMS III.E version 15.1: Avoidance of methane production from decay of biomass through controlled combustion, gasification or mechanical/thermal treatment
<i>Name of the authors of the query:</i>	Christoph Sutter Institution: South Pole Carbon Asset Management Ltd. c.sutter@southpolecarbon.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.

Project participants are planning to implement a program of activities (PoA) involving integrated system designs comprising of gasification and anaerobic digestion systems for biomass.

Currently AMS III.E is applicable to project activities involving gasification while AMS III.D is applicable to project activities involving digestion of manure. Under a PoA only one SSC methodology can be applied. To make the proposed project activity eligible under CDM, it is requested to extend the applicability of AMS III.E to include anaerobic digestion.

### **Recommendation by the SSC WG:**

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

Please refer to paragraph 6 of the meeting report of the SSC WG 14 ([http://cdm.unfccc.int/Panels/ssc\\_wg](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 (SSC WG) of the CDM Executive Board would like to thank the author for the submission.

The SSC WG agreed not to recommend the proposed changes to AMS III.E version 15.1. Approved methodology AMS III.E is applicable to project activities that **avoid** methane formation through prevention of the anaerobic decay of biogenic wastes. Waste that in the baseline situation was decaying anaerobically in a disposal site is treated in a **thermal/mechanical process** (combustion, gasification, thermal/mechanical treatment) to prevent the formation of methane.

The controlled anaerobic digestion of municipal solid wastes is presently not covered in any of the approved SSC methodologies. AMS III.D is applicable to the specific situation of avoidance of methane from animal manure.

The SSC WG agreed to suggest that a revision of AMS III.F version 5 may be proposed instead. AMS III.F currently covers only the aerobic decay (composting) of biomass or other biogenic organic matter. Enhancement of the applicability of the methodology may be proposed to cover a broad spectrum of controlled **mechanical-biological (MB)<sup>1</sup> treatment routes** i.e. aerobic treatment (composting) and anaerobic treatment with methane recovery in particular. Mechanical processing (size reduction, source separation of different components like paper, plastics, metals, etc.) may precede the biological treatment. If the mechanical processing results in any fraction of residues that can undergo controlled thermal treatment (like combustion, gasification, thermal/mechanical treatment, etc.), reference shall be made to respective paragraphs of AMS III.E for the guidance on how to consider those treatment methods in the calculations.

It is likely the project activity installs anaerobic reactors/digestors that are more efficient and generate more methane than the baseline disposal site. This issue needs to be taken into account while proposing the revision of AMS III.F to include anaerobic digestion. The approach as described in the revised AMS III.D recommended at the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SSC WG may be considered for this purpose. That is emission reductions shall be the minimum of two values: (a) the *ex post* estimation of the baseline emissions using the FOD model for the actual amount and composition of the generated wastes (based on monitored data) for the hypothetical situation of their disposal in the baseline disposal site; (b) the *ex post* monitored amount of methane recovered and flared or combusted by the project activity. In addition fugitive emissions due to physical leakages from the anaerobic digester plant needs to be considered as project emissions.

To facilitate the consideration of your response at SSC WG 15, kindly provide your response on or before **10 March 2008**.



Signature of SSC WG Chair .....

(Ulrika Raab)

Date: 19/02/2008



Signature of SSC WG Vice-Chair .....

(Kamel Djemouai)

Date: 19/02/2008

**Information to be completed by the secretariat**

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<sup>1</sup> In typical MB treatment, the waste material undergoes a series of mechanical and biological operations that aim to reduce the volume of the waste as well as stabilise it to reduce emissions. The operations vary by application.