



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:	21–24 September 2009, SSC WG 22
Title/Subject (give a small title or specify the subject of your submission, maximum 200 characters):	Clarification on methane producing capacity (B_o) for industrial wastewater in AMS-III.H
Indicative methodology to which your submission relates (refer the items of Appendix B of the Simplified Modalities and Procedures), if applicable.	AMS-III.H, version 12
Name of the authors of the query:	Ms. Yvonne Hofman Institution: OneCarbon y.hofman@onecarbon.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:

OneCarbon submitted a request for revision of SSC III H for SSC WG 20 (SSC_291). The request involved the following:

“This request for revision aims to revise small scale methodology III H version 11 for projects involving industrial waste water treatment. We propose to revise the factor $B_{o,ww}$ i.e. the Methane producing capacity of the waste water from 0.21 kg CH₄/kg COD, which is the IPCC lower value for domestic wastewater, to 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD. Our arguments are as follows:

- a *The factor 0.21 kg CH₄/kg COD is the lower value for domestic wastewater. The argumentation to apply 0.21 kg CH₄/kg COD in the IPCC Good Practice guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories on page 5.17 (IPCC 2001) and is indeed specifically for domestic wastewater and does not apply to industrial wastewater. The section on industrial waste water explicitly mentions the 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD (page 5.20): “If no national data are available, it is good practice to use the IPCC COD-default factor for B_o (0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD).”*
- b *The formula to calculate baseline emissions includes $B_{o,ww}$, MCF and UF_{BL} . $B_{o,ww}$ is the maximum methane producing potential. The Methane Correction Factor (MCF) indicates the extent to which $B_{o,ww}$ is realised (IPCC good Practice guidance, page 5.16). UF_{BL} is the model correction factor to account for model uncertainties. Taking into account that both MCF and UF_{BL} are already applied to correct for the value of $B_{o,ww}$, it seems over-conservative to also correct the factor 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD into 0.21 kg CH₄/kg COD.”*

Or in other words: the specific uncertainties and the related correction as applied to UF_{BL} (model correction factor), MCF (methane correction factor) and $B_{o,ww}$ (methane producing potential) are not mutually exclusive. Also note that the factor UF_{BL} is not applied by the IPCC.

(Note that we refer to IPCC 2001, while it would have been more appropriate to refer to IPCC 2006 Volume 5, but the texts in both versions on domestic and industrial wastewater are more or less the same.

A difference is that in the 2001 version the factor 0.21 is explicitly mentioned for domestic wastewater (page 5.17) while it is not mentioned anymore in the 2006 version (Volume 5, page 6.12)

The IPCC 2006 reference for the definition of MCF is Volume 5, Section 6.2.2.2, page 6.12)

At 8 May 2009 we received the following response:

“The SSC WG agreed to recommend a revision of AMS-III.H. to include additional guidance on the use of methane generation potential based on Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD_{5,20}) as contained in annex 13 of the SSC WG 20 report)

The response of the SSC WG does however not refer to our question. In this request for clarification we therefore like the SSC WG to again assess our request for revision.

Our request for revision aims to revise the factor $B_{0,ww}$, i.e. the Methane producing capacity of the waste water, from 0.21 kg CH₄/kg COD to 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD. The response of the SSC WG as in Annex 13 to meeting 20 is to allow the use of a default value of 0.6 kg CH₄/kg BOD for the BOD. This is not applicable to our project as we monitor COD. We therefore still like the SSC WG to consider allowing to use the factor 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD. Our request involved only industrial wastewater, but since the SSC now allows the use of the factor 0.6 kg CH₄/kg BOD for domestic and industrial wastewater, it would be consistent to also allow for 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD, especially taking into account table 6.2 in IPCC 2006 which includes both 0.6 kg CH₄/kg BOD and 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD as appropriate default values for domestic wastewater.

Please let us know in case there are any questions.

Recommendation by the SSC WG:

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

Please refer to paragraph 38 of the meeting report of the SSC WG 22
(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 noted that the guidance from the Board has been to refer to the most recent IPCC Guidelines i.e., 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

The SSC WG agreed to indicate that there are specific uncertainties of 30% for B_0 default value and 30% for MCF default value specified by IPCC 2006 Guidelines. As B_0 and MCF are uncorrelated, the resultant combined uncertainty would be 42% according to the ‘error propagation method’ (see IPCC 2006 guidelines V1, Ch3, p3.28).

Estimated uncertainty range (%)	Assigned uncertainty band (%)	Conservative factor for the base year	Conservative factor for a year of the commitment period
Less than or equal to 10	7	0.98	1.02
Greater than 10 and less than or equal to 30	20	0.94	1.06
Greater than 30 and less than or equal to 50	40	0.89	1.12
Greater than 50 and less than or equal to 100	75	0.82	1.21
Greater than 100	150	0.73	1.37

In accordance with Annex III (page 24) of document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/10/Add.2
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2003/sbsta/10a02.pdf>> (see table above) an uncertainty band of 42% results in conservativeness factor of 0.89.

The SSC WG agreed therefore 0.25 kg CH₄/kg COD or 0.6 kg CH₄/kg BOD can be used for B₀ with a model correction factor UF_{BL} of 0.89 in formula 2 of AMS-III.H. The SSC WG will recommend the modification in AMS III-H and other related methodologies (e.g., AMS III-I) at the next opportunity to propose revisions to these methodologies.



Signature of SSC WG Chair

(Hugh Sealy)

Date: 24/09/2009



Signature of SSC WG Vice-Chair

(Peer Stiansen)

Date: 24/09/2009

Information to be completed by the secretariat

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