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:	10–12 November 2008, SSC WG 18
Title/Subject (give a small title or specify the subject of your submission, maximum 200 characters):	Clarification request on the applicability of AMS-III.H to a project activity at a waste water treatment plant in Mexico
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 09
Name of the authors of the query:	Matthias Müller Institution: Green Gas Germany GmbH matthias.mueller@greengas.net

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.

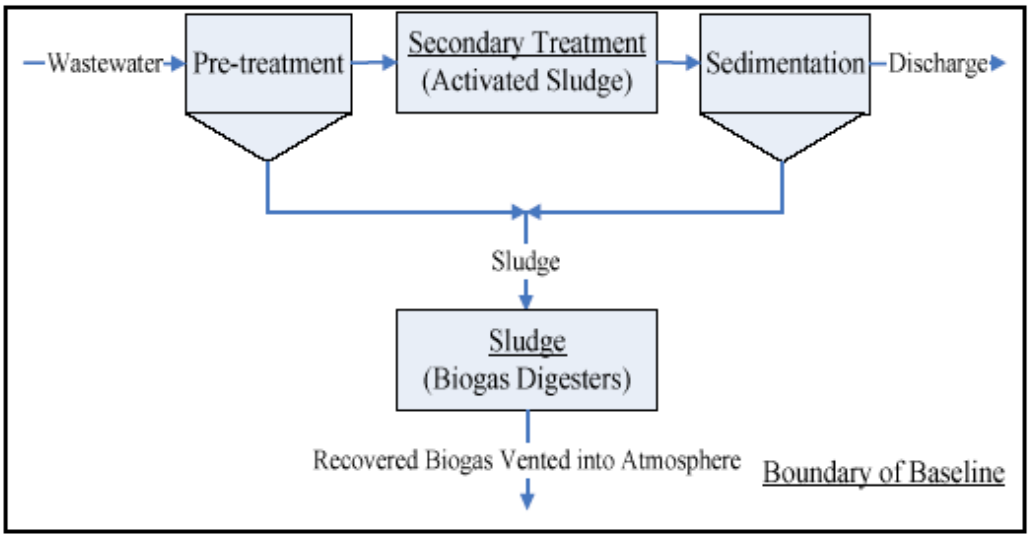
Original text from PP:

Clarification and guidance are requested on the following issue:

Baseline:

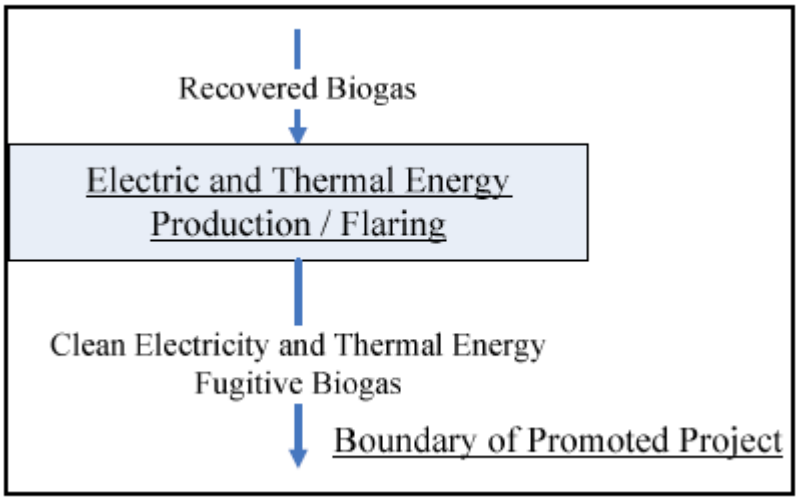
The baseline is treatment of wastewater with sludge anaerobic digestion and recovery of the produced biogas.

The aim of the treatment is the decrement of the organic load of the wastewater. The recovered gas (500 m3/h) is vented into the atmosphere. The figure below describes the baseline boundary:



Envisaged project activity:

The project activity will reduce GHG emissions by destroying methane through both combustion in a enclosed high-efficiency flare and utilization in a combined heat and power (CHP) generation unit. In addition, the produced thermal and electric energy will displace fossil fuel based energy. The designed CHP engine will have an installed electrical capacity of approximately 1 MW. The estimated total annual emission reductions are approximately 30.000 t CO_2 equivalent. The figure below describes the project boundary:



Clarification request:

According to its paragraph 1 (iii) the methodology AMS-III.H is applicable to project activities which introduce a methane recovery and combustion to an existing sludge treatment system. The Project Proponent kindly request guidance on the applicability of current version of AMS-III.H to the situation mentioned above, where the sludge treatment and biogas recovery takes place in the baseline and the project activity will introduce combustion and utilization measures of the biogas. Furthermore if expedient and in conjunction with the project activity illustrated above the Project Proponent are seeking guidance on potential subsequent steps to be undertaken on the AMS-III.H (e.g. deviation/extension/revision of the AMS-III.H.).

Recommendation by the SSC WG:

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

Please refer to paragraph 27 of the meeting report of the SSC WG 18 (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 understood that the described project activity in the baseline situation has the equipment and facility to recover the biogas from the sludge treatment system, however lacks the equipment and facility to flare the recovered biogas and/or use it.

AMS-III.H version 10 is applicable to project activities, which introduce 'methane recovery and combustion' to an existing sludge treatment system. The SSC WG agreed to clarify that AMS-III.H version 10 treats methane recovery and methane combustion as an inter related and integral activity.

Venting biogas to the atmosphere without flaring is not a common practice, as it will be then a source of odour and carries is a risk of fire/explosions in wastewater treatment plants. The SSC WG agreed to request further clarification on the baseline condition, particularly the valid reasons for which flaring is not done if any. The Project Proponent may also wish to propose guidance in the methodology to test those conditions to establish the baseline for example is the situation foreseen in the engineering design of the wastewater treatment? For what reason was a flare not included in the design, or for what reason is it ~~is~~ not operational? Further, there may be a need to specify a certain extent of historic data (e.g. for the last three years if the sludge treatment system has been operational for more than three years, otherwise for the duration for which the sludge treatment system has operated) to establish the baseline.

Signature of SSC WG Chair ……..

(Ulrika Raab)

Date: 12/11/2008

Signature of SSC WG Vice-Chair ……..

(Kamel Djemouai)

Date: 12/11/2008

Information to be completed by the secretariat	
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