

22 January 2015: Deviation to the rules in Annex Z: Gold Standard procedures for renewal of crediting period

The current version of 'Annex Z: Gold Standard procedures for renewal of crediting period' states:

'The start date of the renewed crediting period is defined as the first day after the end date of the previous crediting period, provided the application for a renewal of the crediting period is submitted (revised PDD, Passport and validation report for renewal of CP) to Gold Standard prior to the end of the previous crediting period.'

In the case when the application for renewal of the crediting period is not submitted to Gold Standard prior to the end of the previous crediting period, but is submitted within one year, then the start date of the renewed crediting period will be the date when the 4-week review period ends. The reason for delay in the submission of the application for renewal of the crediting period has to be justified by the Project Representative.'

Several Gold Standard projects have failed to comply with this requirement. For many projects, the first crediting period has ended but submission of the renewal request has either not been made or has been made but with significant delays. The Gold Standard has received many requests to deviate from this requirement, thereby enabling projects to start the second crediting period immediately after the end date of the first crediting period

We would like to inform you that for a limited amount of time we are enabling a deviation from this rule with immediate effect. Projects will be allowed to start the second crediting period immediately after the end date of the first crediting period as long as they submit a formal request for renewal by 31st December 2015. This applies to projects that have already ended the first crediting period or will be ending sometime in 2015. The request will only be considered formal if all the relevant documents are submitted to the Secretariat in the required format (as per Annex Z). For projects whose crediting period is due for renewal anytime after 31st December 2015 the existing rules under Annex Z will apply.

In the case of a methodology revision, there can be a change in the monitoring parameters at the time of renewal of the project, thus leading to some discontinuity in the monitoring of the parameters as per the applied methodology. In such cases, the project developer will need to seek approval on the deviation in the monitoring plans. This should be done on a case-by-case basis.

Please note that this is a one time exemption and is valid only until the end of this year, after that there will be no exemption or deviation allowed from the rules currently stated in Annex Z.