REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Validation/Verification Body Assessment of Proposed New Methodology for Improved Thermal Energy Generation Units

September 6, 2023

1 INTRODUCTION

Verra is a global leader helping to tackle the world's most intractable environmental and social challenges. As a mission-driven nonprofit organization, Verra is committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, improving livelihoods, and protecting natural resources by working with the private and public sectors. We support climate action and sustainable development with standards programs that credibly, transparently, and robustly assess environmental and social impacts and enable funding for sustaining and scaling up projects that verifiably deliver these benefits.

The Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) Program is our flagship program. It allows vetted projects to turn their GHG emission reductions and removals into tradable carbon credits called Verified Carbon Units (VCUs). Since its launch in 2006, the VCS Program has grown into the world's largest voluntary GHG program with over 1,900 registered projects in 88 countries that have cumulatively generated more than 1 billion VCUs.

An integral component of the VCS Program is the *Methodology Development and Review Process, v4.3* (MDRP), which allows stakeholders to develop new methodologies that set out procedures to monitor and quantify the emission reductions and removals of new project activities, thus expanding the eligibility of project activities under the VCS Program. Such new methodologies are submitted to Verra for review before undergoing a technical assessment by an approved, accredited validation/verification body (VVB).

2 SCOPE OF WORK

Verra is accepting proposals for the assessment of the draft *Methodology for Improved Thermal Energy Generation Units* as per section 3.5 of the *MDRP, v4.3*. The methodology has been developed by the independent consultant Atmosphere Alternative, which Verra hired. Atmosphere Alternative will also lead the VVB assessment.

The proposed methodology applies to projects that involve the dissemination of improved thermal energy generation units (like cookstoves, dryers, ovens, and heaters) that, through enhanced efficiency and/or fuel switching (involving replacement of fossil fuels and non-renewable biomass), lead to GHG emission reductions in households, communities, institutions, and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). The proposed methodology covers a broad set of activities and consolidates

elements of existing methodologies currently approved for use within the VCS Program, which include the following:

1. *VMR0006 Energy Efficiency and Fuel Switch Measures in Thermal Applications*
2. *AMS-II.G.: Energy efficiency measures in thermal applications of non-renewable biomass*
3. *AMS-I.E.: Switch from non-renewable biomass for thermal applications by the user*

The proposed methodology includes improvements to represent current best practices and streamlined approaches in project implementation and monitoring.

Verra is funding the development and assessment process for the methodology, including the costs for the VVB assessment.

The requirements for the assessment are set out in Section 6 of the *MDRP, v4.3*.

3 QUALIFICATIONS

Verra is seeking a VVB that conforms with the requirements set out in Section 5 of the *VCS Program Guide, v4.3*. Verra will review all VVB proposals received and select a VVB based on their expertise and experience in the scope of work and the sectoral scope (VCS Sectoral Scope 3: Energy demand).

Verra will use the following specific criteria for evaluating proposals, in order of preference:

- Experience with and performance on methodology assessments
- Experience with and performance on cookstove project assessments (both validations and verifications)
- Economical value to ensure that the proposed level of effort is consistent with the outcomes
- Availability to comply with the proposed timeline

4 MILESTONES, DELIVERABLES, AND TIMELINE

The respondent must outline the assessment's duration, key milestones, and timeline within the proposal consistent with sections 3.5 and 5 of the *MDRP, v4.3*.

The VVB assessment is planned to start in mid-October of 2023, with a duration of approximately three to four months. The 30-day public stakeholder consultation will be carried out simultaneously with the start of the VVB assessment.

5 RESPONSES TO THE RFP

Respondents are requested to submit the following as part of their proposals:

- A two- to three-page narrative detailing how the VVB will execute the scope of the work and deliverables as set out in Section 6 of the *Methodology Development and Review Process, v4.3*, including a work plan and estimated timeline for the assessment
- A description of their experience in assessing methodologies and projects, including the following:
    - A list of all methodologies assessed by the VVB, including the name of the GHG program, sectoral scope, and year of issuance of the VVB assessment report. This list must also state whether the assessment was for a new or revised methodology.
    - A list of all cookstove projects validated or verified by the VVB, including the name of the GHG program, assessment type (validation or verification), and year of issuance of the VVB assessment report
    - A summary of the proposed reviewer's experience in methodology assessment and cookstove projects and a short resume or CV (one page maximum for each reviewer)
- A detailed cost proposal (including work hours required for different personnel)
- A disclosure statement of services (i.e., a conflict of interest statement), which will be provided to the methodology developer

The detailed proposal must be submitted by email with the subject "VVB Proposal for Methodology for Improved Thermal Energy Generation Units" to methodologies@verra.org **by Friday, September 22, 2023**. Verra may also share the proposal with the methodology developer. Verra may request interviews with the proponent as part of the selection process.

Verra aims to finalize the VVB selection by September 29, 2023.

Interested proponents may request clarifications on any information in this RFP by sending an email to methodologies@verra.org with the subject "Clarification: VVB Proposal for Methodology for Improved Thermal Energy Generation Units."

Legal Nature of RFP

This RFP is an invitation for proposals, and Verra is under no legal obligation to accept any proposal or proceed with the RFP. Verra reserves the right to amend the requirements at any time.