

# Reorganizing and Restructuring VCS Program Documents

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This document summarizes the feedback received during the 2018 VCS Version 4 public consultation in respect of the proposal to more effectively organize and structure the VCS program documents. This document also sets out whether and how the original proposal was updated as a result of that feedback. The abstract, background, and details of the proposal published during the 2018 consultation are available in the [original consultation document](#).

## 2 RESULTS AND CONSIDERATIONS OF 2018 CONSULTATION

During the 2018 public consultation, Verra received comments on this proposal from 12 different stakeholders, including project developers, validation/verification bodies, and other market participants.

The feedback received during the first consultation was significantly positive. In particular, the vast majority of commenters indicated that a more user-friendly structure of the VCS program documents would be much-welcomed. However, a few stakeholders did raise concern regarding the fact that they would need to adapt to the new document structure. Verra has considered all feedback received and has concluded that the proposal does not need to be substantively updated.

In response to feedback regarding difficulty of adapting to the new program document structure, Verra will provide a document that maps all program requirements from the current versions of the VCS Program to the new versions of the documents.

Section 3 below provides access to the restructured version of the *VCS Standard*, the new *VCS Methodology Requirements* document, and the requirements mapping document.

## 3 PROPOSAL

The following documents provide the proposed format and draft text of select VCS Version 4 Program documents:

- 1) [VCS Standard, v4.0 \(draft\)](#): Per the 2018 proposal, this new version represents a consolidation of project-level requirements from the current versions of the *VCS Standard*, *AFOLU Requirements*, and *ODS Requirements* documents. Also per the 2018 proposal, this version includes a delineation between descriptive text, which has been included in the “concept” sections, and “requirements”.
- 2) [VCS Methodology Requirements, v4.0 \(draft\)](#): Per the 2018 proposal, this new version represents a consolidation of methodology-level requirements from the current versions of the *VCS Standard*, *AFOLU Requirements*, and *ODS Requirements* documents. Also per the 2018 proposal, this version includes a delineation between descriptive text, which has been included in the “concept” sections, and “requirements”.

- 3) [VCS Program requirements mapping document](#): This document sets out whether and how different sections of existing program documents have been moved across into the draft Version 4 documents above.

Note that these draft versions of the *VCS Standard* and *VCS Methodology Requirements* include tracked changes. These changes represent edits to existing requirements. For example, in certain cases requirements are duplicative given the consolidation of multiple program documents into these new draft versions, and those duplicative requirements have been removed accordingly. Also, per the 2018 proposal, certain outdated requirements have also been removed. New text that was added to the documents that does not represent a change to existing requirements (e.g., background information added into “concept” sections) does not appear in tracked changes.

Additionally, note that these draft versions of the *VCS Standard* and *VCS Methodology Requirements* do not incorporate the proposed changes to the rules and requirements that are associated with the other VCS Version 4 proposals.

Verra seeks feedback on the clarity and structure of these updated program documents. We also seek feedback on the usefulness of the requirements mapping document.