UCR Rainwater (RoU) Verification Standard

Ver 1.0
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1. ROLE OF RAINWATER OFFSET VERIFICATION IN UCR

Universal Co2 Emission And Offset Registry Pvt Ltd (Universal Carbon Registry or UCR) is a private limited company (CIN: U74999DL2021PTC382180) located in India and aims to launch a low cost, simple and robust voluntary water offset standard and accompanying voluntary water registry platform (UCR platform or Registry) to enable a sustainable water world economy. All projects entering UCR are subject to initial project verification by qualified UCR-Approved Verifiers for the duration of the Project's enrollment in UCR, unless prior verification reports are available for the vintage years assessed. UCR rules require approved water harvesting, recharging and conservation project activities to undergo an independent verification to confirm project eligibility based on the Approved Postive List of projects and conformance to the approved UCR Rainwater RoU Standard.

This UCR Rainwater RoU Verification Standard (UCR RoU Verification Standard) has been developed based on the requirements of the UCR Rainwater Offset (RoU) Standard and Program Manual, which is the overarching document that provides links to various UCR documents containing the rules and requirements governing the UCR Program.

UCR Verifiers, when applying this guidance document, shall also ensure compliance with the applicable requirements stipulated in the UCR RoU Program Manual and UCR Rainwater Offset (RoU) Standard.

India is undergoing the worst water crisis in its history. Its critical groundwater resources, which account for 40% of its water supply, are being depleted at unsustainable rates (source). UCR is aware that even though some project activities may be mandated by local or state regulators (e.g rooftop RWH in new buildings), however, given the lack of compliance or enforcement, the urgency and gravity of the groundwater reality in India, the intended goal of the UCR RoU Program, generation of water credits (RoUs) and its sale, is expected to incentivize such mandated activities and make them lucrative (if not profitable) to commission and/or maintain and/or install, in addition to increasing the scale of such adoption of such activities across India. Hence the role of the RoU Verifier is critial in identifying, through their expert verification and audits, which entities and projects get access to global water finance, speedily and without unnecessary hurdles.

UCR water offset project verifications must be conducted and reported in accordance with the principles and requirements outlined in ***Section 4 Verification Scope and Key Manuals*** and at the organisation level, the guidance given by ISO 14064 for greenhouse gases.

TERMS

Freshwater or rainwater: water having a low concentration of dissolved solids Freshwater typically contains less than 1 000 mg/l of dissolved solids and is generally accepted as suitable for withdrawal and conventional treatment to produce potable water. The concentration of total dissolved solids can vary considerably over space and/or time.

Brackish water: water containing dissolved solids at a concentration less than that of seawater, but in amounts that exceed normally acceptable standards for municipal, domestic and irrigation uses. The concentration of total dissolved solids in brackish water can vary from 1000 mg/l to 30000 mg/l.

Water information: information supporting a water statement and pertaining to water characteristics important to assess water resources, water use, water withdrawal, water degradation, water quality, water availability, and water scarcity.

Project /rainwater offset project: List of approved project activities as set out in the positive list of the UCR Rainwater Standard.

Water/drainage basin: area from which direct surface runoff from precipitation drains by gravity into a stream or other water body. The terms "watershed", "drainage area", "catchment", "catchment area" or "river basin" are sometimes used for the concept of "drainage basin". Grounwater drainage basin does not necessarily correspond in area to surface drainage basin. The drainage area(s) within the scope of verification/validation and the related project boundaries are as defined by the client in the Project Concept Note (PCN) and Monitoring Report (MR).

Water body: entity of water with definite hydrological, hydrogeomorphological, physical, chemical and biological characteristics in a given geographical area. E.g Lakes, rivers, groundwaters, seas, icebergs, glaciers and reservoirs, etc. The water body(ies) within the scope of verification and the related boundaries are normally defined in the PCN and MR by the client.

Responsible party: person or persons responsible for the provision of the water statement and the supporting water information. The responsible party can be either individuals or representatives of an organization, water project or product, and can be the party who engages the verifier**.**

Baseline: situation resulting in quantitative and/or qualitative water characteristics that would have occurred in the absence of a water offset or rainwater project and which provides the baseline scenario for comparison with project water characteristics.

Baseline scenario: hypothetical reference case that best represents the conditions most likely to occur in the absence of a proposed water project. The baseline scenario concurs with the water project timeline.

Specifications with guidance at the project level for quantification, monitoring and reporting of water offsets. It includes requirements for planning a water offset project, identifying and selecting water sources, sinks and reservoirs (SSRs) relevant to the project and baseline scenario, monitoring, quantifying, documenting and reporting water offset project performance and managing data quality. This specification is water programme neutral.

The Project Proponent or Seller making the water offset assertion is responsible for project conformity to UCR program requirements. The UCR-Approved Verifier is responsible for providing an objective assessment of project eligibility, and for providing a verification statement concerning the Project Proponent's water offset assertion, based on evidence found during the verification.

The RoU Verifier shall evaluate the water offset assertion provided by the Project Proponent against the following two main guidelines:

1. No errors, omissions, or misrepresentations (i.e., no material discrepancy) exist in the water offset assertion provided by the Project Proponent that would affect the project's eligibility in the UCR RoU Program.

2. The verification activities provide a reasonable level of assurance that the Project Proponent's water offset assertion is materially correct as specified in UCR RoU Standard that determine the depth of detail the Verifier must design into their verification plan (i.e., verification requirements of the UCR RoU Verification Standard).

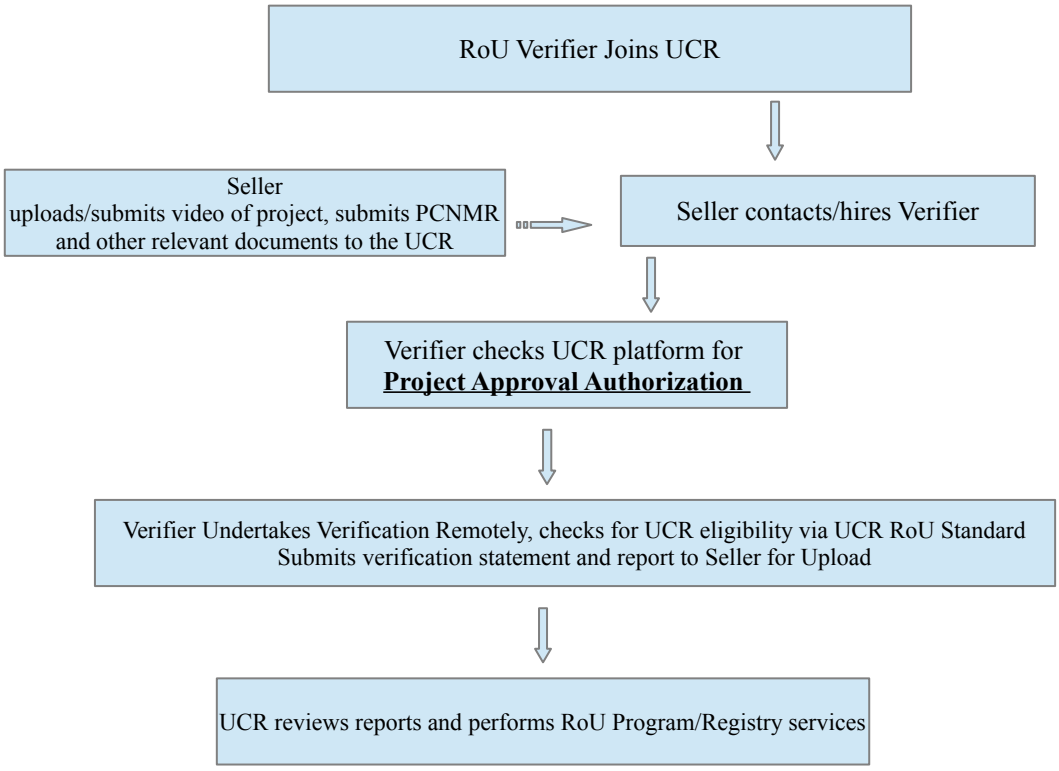
2. UCR VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW

- **Verification Approach**

In carrying out UCR Project Verifications, UCR RoU Verifiers shall:
(a) Determine whether registered UCR Project Activity complies with UCR rules and requirements for the water offset project (UCR RoU Standard);
(b) Not perform verifications for registered UCR Project Activities for which Project Verification by another water program or verification has been completed for the same vintage years.
(c) Ensure that UCR RoU verification activities start after the publication of the Project Concept Note & Monitoring Report (PCNMR) and display of UCR authorization for verification on the UCR RoU Project Registry website (RoU Registry-Approved for Verification);
(d) Assess both quantitative and qualitative information on water offset or net conservation or recycling or recharge additions provided in the project documentation;
(e) Assess and determine whether the implementation and operation of registered UCR RoU Project Activities, and the steps taken to report water offsets, comply with UCR RoU Standard and its rules and requirements;
(f) Assess whether data collection systems used meet the monitoring plan requirements provided in the registered PCNMR and indicated in applied methodologies and tools;
(g) In addition to the monitoring documentation, the UCR Verifier shall review:

(i) The registered PCNMR, including the monitoring plan;
(ii) The Project Monitoring Report (MR);
(iii) Previous Water Offset, Conservation or Recharge Reports, if any;
(iv) The applied methodology(ies) and the other applied methodological tools;
(v) Any other data, information and references relevant to the water offsets pertaining to the UCR Project Activity (e.g., IPCC reports, rainfall data available at the national website, water meter calibration reports, and national regulations). In addition to reviewing the monitoring documentation, the UCR RoU Verifier shall determine whether or not the Project Owner(s) has addressed all FARs identified in the PCNMR or in previous Verification Reports of other water offset or water offset validation or verification Reports.

The flow chart below represents an overview of the process that entities must undergo in order to qualify to perform a verification of a particular UCR Offset Project.



3. UCR VERIFIER APPLICATION PROCESS

Prospective UCR-Approved RoU Verifiers are advised to review online, the relevant UCR RoU Standard for the project types under which they wish to verify. A detailed understanding of the UCR RoU Standard and UCR RoU Program Manual is necessary to properly evaluate whether a Water Offset (RoU) Project is eligible according to UCR guidelines, and whether the resulting water offset assertion is materially correct.

UCR does not accredit third-party RoU verifiers and hence RoU verifiers can be an water auditing agency or approved as individual RoU Verifiers by any other known water offset program, or involved in Water Sustainability Reporting/Audits/Footprints or Environmental Management Assurance Water Conservation Programs against International or National Standards applicable to the water sustainability industry or have undertaken water coneservation verification/audits as per the relevant national or international standards. UCR RoU Verifiers can also be water auditors that have conducted detailed water assessments in the recent past for all types of industries in India. Verifiers must submit a copy of their credentials, and water reports from audits or surveys conducted in the past, along with their application to the UCR RoU administrator via info@ucarbonregistry.io, prior to being onboarded as an approved UCR RoU Verifier or Auditor. UCR holds all rights to accept or reject such applications subject to its discretion.

In addition to submitting the UCR-Approved RoU Verifier Application Interest to UCR RoU Adminstrator, each prospective Verifier is required to submit a UCR-Approved Verifiers General Statement of Potential or Actual Conflicts of Interest (Appendix A) when undertaking verification activities for the Seller/Project Owner. The statement outlines any actual or potential conflicts-of-interest that may be created if the organization becomes a UCR-Approved RoU Verifier. Each prospective RoU Verifier will be notified by UCR of their approval or non-approval within one calendar month of submission.

UCR requires project related information to be reported in English. When source data is not in English, a Member, must, at its own expense, have an English-language version provided.

4. Rainwater Offset Project Verification

- **Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to describe the process of conducting a third-party independent verification of a UCR Project Activity and provide requirements for UCR RoU Verifiers for verifying and certifying the:
(a) Water offset or recharge or conservation or savings achieved by the Project Activity;
(b) Contributions towards achieving Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) and/or Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and
(c) Claims that the Project Activity does not cause any net harm to the environment or/and society
(d) Methods used to determine the calculated water quantity and its estimates comply with the requirements of the UCR RoU Standard; - the methods and modelling of the inventory used to make the water quantities assessment are scientifically and technologically valid;
(e) Data and results of the model or calculations are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the goal and scope of the study;
(f) Interpretations reflect the limitations identified and the goal of the study;
(g) Water offset report is transparent and in line with the goal and scope of the study and effective uncertaintity factors have been used for vintage years beginning 2014.

- **Verification Scope and Key Manuals**

UCR Verifiers shall conduct Project Verifications of UCR Project Activities based on the UCR recommended guidelines adapted from the following manuals that should offer assistance to the verifier:
(a) UCR Rainwater RoU Standard
(b) Rainwater Harvesting and Conservation Manual, 2019 (link) ,
(c) Guide on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water (link)
(d) Rainwater Harvesting Techniques To Augment Ground Water (link)
(e) Manual on Artificial Recharge of Groundwater (link)
(f) IS 15797: 2008 (link) and
(g) Water Data Guide (link)

The UCR RoU Verification Standard (this document), provides specific requirements of the UCR Rainwater RoU Program, for verifying a Project Activity on various aspects including water offsets, sustainability and environmental and social do-no-harm additionality criteria. The availability of source water, one of the prime requisites for ground water recharge, is to be assessed in terms of non committed surplus monsoon run off, which as per present water resource development scenario is going unutilised in India. This component can be assessed by analysing the monsoon rainfall pattern, its frequency, number of rainy days, maximum rainfall in a day and its variation in space and time. The variations in rainfall pattern in space and time, and its relevance in relation to the scope for artificial recharge to sub-surface reservoirs can be considered for assessing the surplus surface water availability (as specified in the manuals indicated above).

- **General Provisions**

Verification of Project Activities by approved UCR RoU Verifiers is a pre-requisite for Project Owners that intend to submit projects for issuance of water credits (Rainwatr Offset Units or RoUs) under the UCR Program. For the UCR Program, a third-party independent external verification of the Project Activity is required to be conducted by approved UCR Verifiers prior to issuance of RoUs.

Under the UCR Program, a UCR Verifier or Verification Body means an individual or an organization approved by the UCR Program to act as a UCR Verifier and provide verification services in accordance with the UCR rules. A UCR Verifier can either be a UCR Project Verifier or a UCR Auditor or individual verifier. Project Reports shall be prepared and signed by a UCR-approved Verifier in accordance with the provisions of program.

The generic requirements of the UCR RoU Program are based on quantification of unutilized water captured, recycled or conserved as per the manuals presented under ***Verification Scope and Key Manuals***, whereas the specific mandatory requirements of the UCR Program and Project Activities are stipulated in the Project RoU Standard and verification requirements are stipulated in RoU Verification Standard (this document) and respective UCR Rainwater Offset methodologies. UCR Verifiers shall refer to the UCR Rainwater Offset Standard, which links requirements with Project Verification.

Verification Approach

UCR RoU Verifiers shall select a competent team (if not independently verifying the project activity) to perform Project verifications for UCR Project Activities as required in the UCR Standard. In carrying out verifications, UCR Verifiers shall:

(a) Follow this RoU Verification Standard and integrate its provisions into the UCR Verifier's own quality management systems;

(b) Apply the most recent applicable UCR Rainwater Offset Standard;

(c) Determine whether or not each UCR Project Activity meets all applicable UCR rules and requirements, including those specified in the Project Standard, applied methodologies/methodological tools and any other requirements;

(d) Assess the accuracy, conservativeness, relevance, completeness, consistency and transparency of the information provided by the Project Owner(s) in the project documents (e.g., PCNMR, VR, MVR, etc.) and as required by the UCR RoU Standard;

(e) Base their findings and conclusions on objective evidence and conduct all verification activities in accordance with UCR rules and procedures;

(f) Not omit evidence that is likely to alter the verification opinion;

(g) Present information in the verification and statement report in a factual, neutral and coherent manner and document all assumptions, provide references to background material, and identify changes made to the documentation and shall only certify water units conserved, harvested or recharged, that are based on verifiable evidence;

(h) Safeguard the confidentiality of all information obtained or created during the verification.

(i) Determine whether information provided by the Project Owner(s) is reliable and credible;

(j) Apply consistent verification criteria:

(i) To the requirements of the selected methodologies and other applied methodological tools throughout the crediting period(s);

(ii) To UCR RoU Project Activities with similar characteristics, such as a similar application of the selected methodologies and other applied methodological tools, use of technology, time period or region;

(ii) To expert judgements, over time and among UCR Project Activities;

Conservative Approach: The UCR recommends that a 10-50% uncertaintity factor related to degree of uncertainity be applied to the final quantity of RoUs calculated for vintage years 2014-2021. However, a more conservative approach to uncertaintity may be selected by the RoU Verifier as per its discretion.

During the audit, the verification team will assess the consistency between the water offsets (RoUs) and the pertinent documentation, mainly concerning: functional unit; system boundary; data collection, inventory and data quality assessment; input/output flows and their use of rainfall data (where applicable) for the analysis; calculation of water offset indicators; characterisation factors and interpretation of the results.

UCR RoU Sellers or Project Owners shall cooperate fully with the verification agency. All relevant data, underlying calculations, receipts or other evidence used to quantify emissions shall be provided promptly upon request of the Verifier. The scope of these shall include (based on the sample selected): (1) the quality of data management and records of underlying data; (2) completeness and accuracy of calculations and baseline emission reports; (3) proper inclusion and documentation of all project locations, (4) correct application of offset rules for filling data gaps; and, (5) other data, methods and procedures deemed necessary to establish the accuracy of emission reductions.

UCR may approve qualified entities to be eligible to provide independent verification of UCR Projects. Unless specifically provided otherwise, each request to issue RoUs for an approved project must be accompanied by a verification statement signed by a UCR-approved RoU Verifier. The verification statement must attest to the UCR eligibility and existence of the registered Project, as well as the descriptive information required by UCR in a form and manner prescribed by the UCR, including a mobile upload or video of the project ativity. The periodic Project Reports to be filed by Project Owners must be by signed by a UCR-approved Verifier, which shall attest to the accuracy of the information provided in the Project Report. The RoU Verifier must attest to the ongoing operation and maintenance of the Project, and to the quantity of RoUs reported and all associated calculations. Documentation of interviews and online site assessments must be provided in the Verification Report.

UCR RoU Verifiers must check the Project Approved For Verification authorization displayed on the RoU registry prior to initiating verification. Verifiers will view and cross check the UCR RoU Registry prior to undertaking verification to ensure that the project has been approved for UCR RoU verification.

All UCR RoUs are issued as rainwater offset unitts or RoUs on a retrospective basis (ex-post), with the RoU vintage applying to the program year in which the rainwater offset activity took place and also after the necessary uncertaintity factors have been applied. RoU Verifiers must submit a Project-Specific Conflicts-of-Interest Form, signed by the RoU Verifier and Project Proponent, for review in order to conduct the initial verification. A copy of the Project-Specific Conflicts-of-Interest Form is included in **Appendix A and must accompany the UCR RoU Verification Statement.**

This submission also serves as confirmation to UCR that the Project Owner/Seller has given UCR staff permission to disclose project-specific information (e.g. PCNMR, Verification Report, Other Documents etc) with the prospective RoU Verifier.

If there exists no conflict-of-interest, RoU Verifiers must determine whether the project is approved for verification by the UCR. This is done by checking the Project Approved For Verification authorization displayed on the RoU Registry displayed on the public website of UCR.

UCR retains the right to reject any water offset (RoU) project that does not adhere to the above project approval process. If UCR approves a project for RoU issuance, after the initial verification, the same RoU Verifier does not need to submit this undertaking to UCR prior to each subsequent verification in the future for the same project activity, **provided** that no substantive changes have occurred in the nature of the relationship between the RoU Verifier and Project Proponent/Owner/Aggregator.

5. DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY

As further general guidance, UCR is aware that even though some project activities may be mandated by local or state regulators (e.g rooftop RWH in new buildings), however, given the lack of compliance or enforcement, the urgency and gravity of the groundwater reality in India, the intended goal of the UCR RoU Program, generation of water credits (RoUs) and its sale, is expected to incentivize such mandated activities and make them lucrative (if not profitable) to commission, maintain or install, in addition to increasing the scale of such adoption across India. As a first step, Verifiers must confirm that the Seller/Project Owner is an eligible entity that has registered the PCNMR and uploaded the necessary video or mobile upload of the Project Activity on the Registry and has recieved the Project Approval Authorization that will be displayed on the UCR RoU Registry Platform.

Dates of Registration Offset Projects

Only Project types that conform to the Positive Approved List within the UCR Standard may be eligible for verification and registration. All UCR projects must:
(a) Adhere to the UCR Rainwater Offset Standard approved/eligible project activty;
(b) Seek verification for the vintage years starting from January 01, 2014 onwards; and
(c) Seek issuance of RoUs from previous water offset programs' verification periods from January 01, 2014 onwards only provided the Seller can demonstrate that they strictly satisfy the UCR Standard and address double counting issues from prior similar water program registrations prior to issuance of RoUs via the UCR.

Project Location

Projects Activities located in Asia, Africa and South America are eligible to be included in the UCR platform and registry at this time.

Use of applicable Forms and Templates

UCR Verifiers contracted to conduct project verification for registration of a proposed UCR Project Activity shall prepare a Project Verification Report (VR) using the valid version of the relevant VR form/template, on the reference date stipulated by the UCR Rainwater Offset Standard.

UCR Verifiers contracted to conduct ex-post water offset verifications for specified monitored periods of registered UCR Projects shall prepare the Verification Statement as provided at the end of this document and also include the form provided in Appendix A of this document.

Verification using Standard Auditing Techniques

UCR Verifiers shall assess the information provided by Project Owner(s) and shall apply the means of verification as specified in the ***Verification Scope and Key Manuals*** section above, this Verification Standard and, where appropriate, standard auditing techniques, including, but not limited to:
(a) Document review, involving:
- (i) A review of data and information;
- (ii) Cross checks between the information provided in the PCN and information from sources other than those used; if available, the UCR Verifier's sectoral or local expertise; and, if necessary, independent background investigations;

(b) Follow-up actions (e.g., telephone or video-call or e-mail interviews), including:
- (i) Interviews with relevant stakeholders in the project host country, such as personnel with knowledge of the project design and implementation; and
- (ii) Cross checks between information provided by interviewed personnel (i.e., by checking sources or other interviews) to ensure that no relevant information has been omitted;

(c) Reference to available information related to projects or technologies similar to the proposed UCR Project Activity under verification;
(d) Review, based on the selected methodologies and applied methodological tools, of the appropriateness of formulae and accuracy of calculations;
(e) Review of the claims regarding the additional certification labels regarding water quality
(f) Review information that water offsets for the vintage years being verified have not been quantified under any other water program, retired or sold prior to verification and must address the issue of double counting.

Criteria for Site Visits

It is not mandatory for UCR Verifiers to conduct on-site visit and inspections during project verification for proposed UCR Project Activities. However, the UCR Verifier shall describe the alternative means of verification used (such as video-call or e-mail interviews) and can request the Seller for updated mobile videos to showcase current operations of the Project Activity apart from the mandatory video uploaded on the Registry of the Project Activity. Verification is to be conducted remotely in view of the COVID pandemic

across the world. Site visits are not required under the UCR program in the interest of health and safety concerns. This criteria for site visits is left at the sole discreation of the UCR verifier in case the COVID pandemic ends in the future.

Non-conformities and corrective action requests

If the UCR Verifier identifies issues that require further elaboration, research or expansion in order to determine whether the Project Activity meets UCR rules and requirements and can achieve credible water offset or conservation or recharge units, the UCR Verifier shall ensure that these issues are accurately identified, formulated, discussed and concluded in the VR. The UCR Verifier shall raise corrective action request (CAR) if any of the following situations occur:
(a) The PCN or PDD contains errors that influence the ability of the proposed UCR Project Activity to achieve real, measurable and verifiable water offset units;
(b) Applicable UCR rules and requirements have not been met;
(c) There is a risk that the water offsets cannot be monitored or calculated;
(d) There is a risk that the claims made in the PCN or MR regarding contributions to sustainable actions or goals may not be achieved or cannot be demonstrated; or
(e) There is a risk that the claims made in the PCN regarding environmental and social safeguards may not be effective, or that the Project Activity may lead to net-harm to the environment and/or society.

The UCR Verifier shall raise a clarification request (CL) if information is lacking or insufficiently clear to determine whether the applicable UCR rules and requirements have been met. All CLs or CARs must be completed and closed by the Seller prior to uploading and submission of the VR and VS on the UCR platform and Registry prior to issuance of RoUs. The UCR Verifier shall not raise a FAR that relates to UCR rules and requirements for registration of the Project Activity.

Application of Materiality

Materiality, as defined in ISO14064-3, shall be applied in the context of the UCR Program. The materiality thresholds will be as per the UCR Verifier stipulations as deemed applicable.

Specific Verification Requirements

UCR Verifiers for approved UCR Scopes and GHG Sectoral scopes shall conduct thirdparty independent verifications of UCR Project Activities as per the Verification Standard, to assess how Project Activities comply with applicable UCR rules and requirements.

GHG Verification Requirements

The UCR Project Standard provides specific requirements on GHG applicable to projects that intend to develop project documentation, including PCN and MR, VR or MVRs. UCR Verifiers shall conduct third-party independent verifications of the GHG reducing component of the UCR Project Activities as per the requirements in the Project Standard.

Sustainability Verification Requirements

In addition to reducing GHGs, the UCR Program also provides an opportunity for Seller or Project Owners to voluntarily choose to demonstrate that their Project Activity contributes to achieving Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) including no net harm to the environment and society.

Verification or Certification Statement

UCR Verifiers shall provide verification and/or certification statements in their VRs.

Qualifications / Limiting Conditions

Verification reports should not be submitted with qualifications or limiting conditions. Verifiers may address any qualifications or limiting conditions and may document the resolution of these qualifications or limiting conditions in the verification report.

Conservative Estimate

All carbon credits or CoUs must be rounded down when applying the final quantity of emission reductions calculated for each vintage year.

Verification Report Submittal

Verifiers should submit completed Vrs and VSs electronically to the seller to be uploaded in pdf directly for review to the UCR staff. The final VR should be reviewed by both the Verifier and Seller/Project Owner prior

to submission to UCR. Signatures must be provided from both parties in the Verification Statement.

Review of Submitted Verification Reports

If the verification report satisfies the review by UCR staff, the verification report will be uploaded on the UCR Registry. Questions or requested clarifications will be communicated by the UCR staff. Post review, the UCR Issuance Department will issue the verified CoUs into the registry account of the Seller and will directly notify the Seller of the issuance.

Cost of Verification Services

The costs of Project Activity verification services and report preparation is to be paid by the Seller to the UCR Verifier directly as per the terms and conditions agreed upon between the counterparties. UCR and its staff are not party to such agreements between Verifier and Seller.

- ## Verification Report and Statement

Verification reporting requirements by UCR are consistent with those outlined in ISO 14064-3 Annex B, Validation and Verification Statement.

The verification report should be formatted in the following format and include the verification statement included in this document:
• An opening or introductory statement including:
(a) Identification of the Project Proponent's assertions and UCR Program and verification requirements against which the verification was conducted.
(b) A statement of the roles and responsibilities of the organization-level or GHG projectl evel management, and the roles and responsibilities of the Verifier including full contact information.

• A section detailing the scope of the verification work including:
(a) Reference to the principles and requirements of the applicable UCR program, which may be accompanied by an approved PCN or Project Design Document, or documented UCR verification requirements against which the verification was conducted.
(b) Reference to the verification scope, objectives, and criteria (i.e. project boundaries, period of time in which the reductions occurred and data sources), including the level of assurance required.
(c) A description of the work the verification team performed, including the techniques and processes used to test the GHG information and associated GHG assertion prepared by the Project Proponent.

• A section detailing the conclusions containing:
(a) A reference to the UCR Program and approved PCN requirements used to prepare the GHG assertion.
(b) GHG information and performance verified (e.g. project plan, baseline GHG emissions or removals, emissions reductions, removal enhancements).
(c) The level of assurance provided by the verification, consistent with the agreed verification scope, objectives, time period, and criteria assertion.
(d) Presentation of the resolution of any qualifications.
(e) Conclusions on the GHG assertion.

• A completed UCR verification checklist corresponding to the appropriate project type. The completeness, accuracy, and quality of evidence of each checklist item should be described in this section to ensure that the level of verification was performed such that no material discrepancy exists at the level of assurance required by UCR rules. For each item in the checklist, the Verifier should state the methods by which the criteria were evaluated, including:
(a) Review of documentation, records, equipment, data, or measurements.
(b) An elaboration of virtual -site inspections.
(c) Interviews and meetings conducted remotely with dates.
(d) The identification of and resolution to any corrective action requests.
(e) Other relevant evidence utilized by the Verifier to reach their conclusion.

• A Verification Statement, attached below, containing the statements, signatures, and information in the form outlined in this document.

UCR Verification Statement

Each verification report submitted to UCR must include the following Verification Statement as provided below.

Verification Statement

This statement issued by_____ (UCR Verifier) to the UCR Program and Registry is to confirm that _____ (UCR Verifier) has evaluated the RoU assertion by _____ (Project Proponent/Seller) covering the period from (DD/MM/YY) _____to _____ (DD/MM/YY) according to the protocols outlined in the UCR Rainwater Offset Standard/Program and in conformity with the UCR Rainwater Verification Standard. _____ (UCR Verifier) confirms all verification activities have been completed and concludes without any qualification or limiting conditions that the RoU assertion by _____ (Project Proponent/Seller) is without material discrepancy and that the verification activities provided the reasonable level of assurance prescribed by UCR program rules that the RoU assertion is materially correct. The RoU assertion provided by _____ (Project ProponentOwner/Seller) has resulted in the recharge, conservation, or savings enhancement of:

Vintage: ___2014_____	1000 Litres or m3: _____
Beginning (DD/MM/YY): _____	End (DD/MM/YY): _____
Vintage: ___2015_____	1000 Litres or m3: _____
Beginning (DD/MM/YY): _____	End (DD/MM/YY): _____
Vintage: ___2016_____	1000 Litres or m3: _____
Beginning (DD/MM/YY): _____	End (DD/MM/YY): _____
Vintage: ___2017_____	1000 Litres or m3: _____
Beginning (DD/MM/YY): _____	End (DD/MM/YY): _____
Vintage: __ 2018_____	1000 Litres or m3: _____
Beginning (DD/MM/YY): _____	End (DD/MM/YY): _____
Vintage: __ 2019_____	1000 Litres or m3: _____
Beginning (DD/MM/YY): _____	End (DD/MM/YY): _____
Vintage: ___2020_____	1000 Litres or m3: _____
Beginning (DD/MM/YY): _____	End (DD/MM/YY): _____

Attestation:

_____ _____

Lead Verifier (Print Name) Senior Internal Reviewer (Print Name)

_____ _____

Lead Verifier (Signature) Senior Internal Reviewer (Signature)

_____ _____

Date (DD/MM/YY) Date (DD/MM/YY)

Project Proponent Authorization:

I, _____ (UCR memberOwner/Aggregator), authorize the above-named verifier to submit this Verification Evaluation to the UCR.

_____ _____

Member/Owner/Aggregator (Print Name) Member/Owner/Aggregator (Signature)

_____ Date (DD/MM/YY)

APPENDIX A

VERIFIERS STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Requirement to Submit a Statement of Conflicts of Interest: Before a Verifier begins any verification work for a Project, the Verifier must submit to a statement of any potential or actual conflicts of interest that may result from undertaking such verification work.

The statement shall include proposed steps that may be taken to avoid, mitigate or neutralize the potential or actual conflict of interest.

The statement shall be signed by the Project Owner. The statement shall also refer to any appearance of conflict of interest that may arise even if this does not lead, in the opinion of the parties signing the statement, to a substantive conflict of interest. UCR Staff shall evaluate statements of potential or actual conflicts of interest on a case-by-case basis and make recommendations on an appropriate course of action.

The Verifier shall make full disclosure in writing to UCR immediately of any change in circumstances that may lead to the emergence of any conflict of interest in the provision of verification services. This disclosure shall include a description of actions taken or that will be taken to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate the actual or potential conflict of interest.

Circumstances that Present an Actual or Potential Conflict of Interest

Performance of the following services for a Project Owner or Seller may result in a conflict of interest for a Verifier wishing to provide verification services to that Project Owner or Seller:

1. Designing, developing, implementing, or maintaining a GHG emissions inventory.
2. Designing or developing GHG information systems.
3. Developing GHG emissions factors or other GHG-related engineering analysis.
4. Designing energy efficiency, renewable energy, or other projects which explicitly identify GHG reductions as a benefit.
5. Preparing or producing GHG-related manuals, handbooks, or procedures specifically for the project activity.
6. Appraisal services of GHG liabilities or assets.
7. Brokering in, advising on, or assisting in any way in carbon or GHG-related markets.
8. Management over health, environment and safety functions.
9. Legal and expert services unrelated to verification for UCR purposes.
10. Verifier and Owner share board members or senior management.
11. If there is a financial, functional or structural link (e.g. common ownership, contractual arrangement, or informal contract) between the parties, whether directly or through affiliated organizations (e.g. holding companies, parent companies etc).

Other factors that may constitute a conflict of interest include, without limitation: subsidiaries, formal partners, affiliates, etc.

Verifier/s must not be involved in any commercial, financial or other processes with the owner or aggregator of the project activity that might influence their judgment and render it not impartial or not objective.

Process for Evaluating Statement of Conflicts of Interest:

The statement must be sent to the UCR Program or concerned department of the UCR via email displayed on the website. This statement is to be filled out by the Verifier.

Verifier Providing Verification Services (Personnnel names)	
Verifier Organization Name	
Verifier Organization Website	
Verifier Mailing Address	
Project Owner Name	
Project Owner Company	
Project Type	
Project Name	
Project Location	
Has your organization provided certification or verification services for the above project owner in connection with any other GHG trading, registry or other system during the previous three years? If yes, list the years and nature of the verification services provided.	
Has your organization provided any non-verification services to the project owner during the previous three years? Are there any plans or contracts for your organization to continue to provide such services on an ongoing basis or in the future? If yes, what was the nature of the work performed? When was it performed? What was the scale of the work performed.	
Identify all potential sources of conflict of interest that may arise if your organization performs verification services for the above-named project owner. If the potential conflict of interest may arise indirectly through an affiliated organization, please describe the nature of that link.	
Please provide a list of names of the staff that are providing verification services to the above-named Project Owner. For these staff, are there any instances of personal or professional relationships or financial interests that may represent a potential conflict of interest? If yes, please detail. •	
Are there particular reasons why this work should be considered sensitive, highly visible or subject to special scrutiny (e.g., press coverage, special interest, prior controversy, etc.)?	

We hereby warrant the truthfulness of the answers to all questions on this form and the attached statement and documentation and to any other questions that may be asked by UCR or its designated representatives. We agree to maintain the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in this form and the attached statement and documentation. We undertake to immediately notify UCR in writing about any material change in any information contained in this form and the attached statement and documentation. We authorize UCR or its designated representatives to obtain information from sources that they deem appropriate in order to adequately evaluate and process this form and the attached statement and documentation and to ensure the integrity and effective operation of the UCR and UCX in the future. We understand that failure to provide full and accurate information may result in the delay or rendering invalid of any decision made in response to the information contained in this form and the attached statement and documentation.

Signed and accepted by duly authorized representatives of:

_____	_____
Verifier Name:	Project Owner Name/ Company
_____	_____
Title	Title
_____	_____
Signature of Verifier	Project Owner/Aggregator Signature
:_____	_____
Date	Date