

# Streamlining the Methodology Approval Process

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This document summarizes the main points of feedback received during the 2018 VCS Version 4 public consultation in respect of the proposal to streamline the methodology approval process such that only a single VVB assessment would be required. 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 15 different stakeholders, including project developers, methodology developers, validation/verification bodies, and other market participants.

The feedback received during the first consultation was significantly positive. In particular, the majority of commenters recognized the time and cost savings that would result, and also expressed a positive view toward increased involvement of Verra staff as a means to ensure consistency and quality of methodologies. However, some commenters expressed concern regarding Verra staff's qualifications to carry out a detailed technical review of certain methodologies. Verra has considered all feedback received and has revised the original proposal slightly.

The main revision to the proposal is to specify that where Verra believes that its staff does not have sufficient technical expertise to complete its review, that Verra would contract an outside expert, at its expense, to assist the review.

Section 3 below provides the revised proposal as it would be incorporated into the VCS rules.

## 3 REVISED PROPOSAL

Proposed updates to the *Methodology Approval Process* are included in track changes in this version of the [document](#). The main updates include:

- Replacement of the first VVB assessment with a more in-depth review by Verra staff, including clarification that Verra will contract an external expert where Verra staff do not have the technical expertise necessary to substantively review a particularly complex methodology.
- Specification of the process by which Verra proposes to contract the VVB conducting the methodology assessment.
- Updates to the process for post-approval assessment of standardized methods, to align with the intent of this proposal.

Additionally, as set out in the original proposal, Verra proposes to update the fees associated with the methodology approval process, as set out in the following table:

<b>Fee Type</b>	<b>Current Fees</b>	<b>Proposed Fees</b>
<i>New methodologies and substantive revisions:</i>		
• Methodology concept note application fee	USD 2,000	USD 2,000
• Processing fee where Verra accepts the methodology element into the approval process	USD 8,000	USD 13,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>USD 10,000</b>	<b>USD 15,000</b>
<i>Minor methodology revisions:</i>		
• Methodology concept note application fee	USD 1,250	USD 1,500
• Processing fee where Verra accepts the methodology element into the approval process	USD 3,750	USD 6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>USD 5,000</b>	<b>USD 7,500</b>