

2 October 2023

Verra  
1 Thomas Circle, NW  
Suite 1050  
Washington, DC 20005.  
United States of America

### Request for participation of project proponents in clarification processes

Dear Verra Team,

With reference to the PD Forum meeting on the 12th of July 2023 attended by Verra representatives Farhan Ahmed and Heather McEwan. During this meeting, the PD Forum raised a request for Verra to allow Project Proponents (PPs) to participate in clarification calls.

At present, PPs may only request clarification calls on Verra's review findings via the VVB and only the VVB is allowed to attend. This process causes 3 main concerns for PPs:

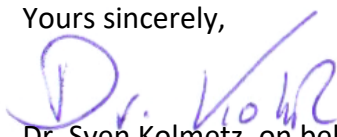
1. "Broken telephone" effect between Verra's clarification of the findings and the PP can cause unnecessary delays in closing the review process and risks initiation of additional review rounds. Clarification calls are needed to ensure that the PP understands the findings and can adequately respond by making the necessary changes in the project documents and/or justify the content.
2. Allowing only the VVBs in the clarification challenges VVB independence, by being a go-between, relaying the PPs requests and justifications, as well as Verra's responses.
3. Verra's policy of only allowing three review rounds before issuing a denial emphasizes the need for PPs to be able to join clarification calls to avoid unnecessary and material delays. This is particularly concerning when the findings could have been closed with the understanding gained by participating in clarification calls.

Additionally, Verra's stance about clarification calls are contrary to the CDM and Gold Standard procedures, who routinely allow the PP to join such calls.

In the PD Forum meeting on the 12th of July 2023, Verra said that they will consider allowing PPs on clarification calls on a case-by-case basis. A request by one of our members to join a clarification call was subsequently denied. We therefore request that Verra would clarify their position on allowing PPs to be part of the clarification calls and to be consistent in their approach. We also request a formal channel for PPs to raise clarification requests for projects and methodologies.

Many thanks in advance.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Sven Kolmetz, on behalf of our members  
Director



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