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Australian Standard®

Greenhouse gases—Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition



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- A3P
- Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Consumers' Federation of Australia
- CRC for Greenhouse Accounting Department of Natural Resources and Water, Qld
- Engineers Australia
- Forests of NSW
- JAZ-ANZ
- Minerals Council of Australia
- NSW Greenhouse Gas Abatement Scheme
- Wine Makers Federation of Australia

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Australian Standard®

Greenhouse gases—Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee EV-015, Greenhouse Gas Measurement and Accounting.

The objective of this Standard is to ensure that the principles and requirements for bodies that undertake validation, or verification of greenhouse gas (GHG) assertions are achieved.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from ISO 14065:2007, *Greenhouse gases—Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition.*

As this Standard is reproduced from an international standard, the following applies:

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References to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian Standards, as follows:

Reference to International Standard ISO		*Australian Standard* AS ISO	
14064	Greenhouse gases	14064	Greenhouse gases
14064-1	Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals	14064.1	Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals
14064-2	Part 2: Specification with guidance at the project level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions and removal enhancements	14064.2	Part 2: Specification with guidance at the project level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions and removal enhancements (ISO 14062-2:2006, MOD)
14064-3	Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions	14064.3	Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions

The term 'informative' is used to define the application of the Annex to which it applies. An informative annex is only for information and guidance.

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INTRODUCTION

Climate change has been identified as one of the greatest challenges facing nations, governments, business and citizens for the coming decades. Climate change has implications for both human and natural systems and could lead to significant changes in resource use, production and economic activity. In response, international, regional, national and local initiatives are being developed and implemented to limit greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the Earth's atmosphere. Such GHG initiatives rely on the quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG emissions and/or removals.

The overall aim of GHG validation or verification activities is to give confidence to all parties that rely upon a GHG assertion. The party making the GHG assertion is responsible for conformity with requirements of the relevant standard or GHG programme. The validation or verification body is responsible for completing an objective assessment and providing a validation or verification statement concerning the responsible party's GHG assertion based on evidence. This International Standard provides requirements for bodies that undertake GHG validation or verification using ISO 14064-3 or other relevant standards or specifications. It contains a number of principles that these bodies should be able to demonstrate and provides specific requirements that reflect these principles. General requirements relate to matters such as legal and contractual arrangements, responsibilities, the management of impartiality, and issues of liability and financing. Specific requirements include provisions related to structures, resource requirements and competencies, information and records management, validation and verification processes, appeals, complaints and management systems.

This International Standard provides GHG programme administrators, regulators and accreditors with a basis for assessing and recognizing the competence of validation and verification bodies. It can also be used in other ways, such as in peer assessment within groups of validation or of verification bodies or between such groups.

Figure 1 and Annex A show relationships between the application of this International Standard and ISO 14064-1, ISO 14064-2 and ISO 14064-3.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Greenhouse gases — Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies principles and requirements for bodies that undertake validation or verification of greenhouse gas (GHG) assertions.

It is GHG programme neutral. If a GHG programme is applicable, the requirements of that GHG programme are additional to the requirements of this International Standard.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14064-3:2006, *Greenhouse gases — Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 Terms related to greenhouse gases

3.1.1
greenhouse gas
GHG
gaseous constituent of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, that absorbs and emits radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of infrared radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere, and clouds

NOTE GHGs include carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6).

[ISO 14064-3:2006, definition 2.1]

3.1.2
greenhouse gas assertion
factual and objective declaration made by the responsible party

NOTE 1 The GHG assertion could be presented at a point in time or could cover a period of time.

NOTE 2 The GHG assertion provided by the responsible party should be clearly identifiable and capable of consistent evaluation or measurement against suitable criteria by a validator or verifier.

NOTE 3 The GHG assertion could be provided in the form of a GHG report or GHG project plan.

NOTE 4 Adapted from ISO 14064-3:2006, definition 2.11.

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