Re: Clarification on whether end-users of residential, commercial, institutional, and mixed-use buildings fall within the “households/communities/SME” scope for the purposes of microscale CDM

Dear Ms. Niederberger,

Thank you for your letter received on 18 April 2012, which has been made available to the Chair of the Board. On behalf of the Chair of the Board, I would like to thank you for communicating your question regarding the Guideline for Demonstrating Additionality of Microscale Project Activities version 03.0 (EB63, Annex 23).

Firstly, on the basis of the information provided in this letter, I understand that you are referring to the definition of “household/community/SME” in the context of paragraphs 2(b), 2(c), 3(b) and 4(b) of the aforementioned guidelines. The fulfillment of these criteria represents one of the possible requirements for a project activity to be deemed automatically additional.

The guidelines do not provide a precise definition of “communities”, but recently approved Small-Scale methodologies, such as AMS I.I “Electrification of rural communities using renewable energy” and AMS III B.B “Electrification of communities through grid extension or construction of new mini-grids” could provide examples for the definition; for instance AMS-III.B.B states that “electricity consumers may include households, commercial facilities such as shops, public services/buildings and small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs); applications may include lighting (interior, public street lighting), electrical appliances such as refrigerators, agricultural water pumps”.

Sent by e-mail to: policy.solutions@comcast.net
Please note that further work is being undertaken to improve clarity of the microscale additionality guidelines.

I hope this letter suitably addresses all your concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Howard
Secretary to the CDM Executive Board