

INHALT

1.	TASK OF THE BODY AND THE CLIENT	2
1.1.	Tasks of the environmental verifier organisation.....	2
1.2.	Tasks of the client in the critical review of Life Cycle Assessment	2
1.3.	Regulations on occupational safety	3
1.3.1.	Client.....	3
1.3.2.	Environmental verifier Organisation.....	3
2.	VALIDITY AND RIGHT OF USE OF THE DECLARATION OF VALITIDY	3
3.	TERMINATION OF THE RIGHT USE	4
3.1.	End of the right of use the declaration of validity	4
3.2.	Environmental verifier organisation	4
3.3.	Client.....	4
4.	SCOPE OF APPLICATION	5

Do you have any questions about our certification conditions? We will be happy to help you.

You can reach us by mail info.tncert@tuev-nord.de.

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1. TASK OF THE BODY AND THE CLIENT

1.1. Tasks of the environmental verifier organisation

The TÜV NORD CERT Prüf- und Umweltgutachter GmbH (hereinafter referred to as the "Environmental verifier Organisation") commits to treating all information made accessible to it regarding the client's company as confidential, in accordance with the agreed confidentiality regulations, and to use it only for the agreed purpose. Documents and information made accessible will not be disclosed to third parties. Exceptions to this include the provision of documents to accreditation bodies within the scope of monitoring the Environmental Verifier Organisation or individual verifiers, as well as detailed reporting to the arbitration board in case of disputes. The Environmental Verifier Organisation conducts procedures based on its own documented regulations, in accordance with the respective legal regulations or standards. The basis is the requirements of the legal regulations or standards mentioned in the offer, as well as the national legal provisions underlying the accreditation.

The Environmental Verifier Organisation conducts the procedures on this basis and declares the life cycle assessment valid if the result is positive. Complaints from third parties about a life cycle assessment critically reviewed by the Environmental Verifier Organisation are recorded in writing, examined, and conclusively addressed.

The Environmental Verifier Organisation records complaints and appeals from the client regarding the procedure in writing, examines the facts, and follows up on the complaints/appeals. If no agreement is reached between the client and the Environmental Verifier Organisation, the complaint/appeal procedure published on the TÜV NORD CERT website (www.tuev-nord-cert.de) is applied.

1.2. Tasks of the client in the critical review of Life Cycle Assessment

The client provides the Environmental Verifier Organisation with all documents related to the validation in a timely manner (2 weeks) before the audit. In particular, the following documents (if applicable) should be made available before the critical review:

- the goal and scope of the life cycle assessment
- the plausibility of the defined system boundaries
- the quality and reliability of the inventory data
- the inventory for the production phase (bill of materials), if available
- the impact assessment (evaluation of the magnitude and significance of potential environmental impacts of a product system)
- the interpretation (evaluation of the results and conclusions)
- the final report on the LCA

1.3. Regulations on occupational safety

1.3.1. Client

In advance of the on-site visit, the client provides information about hazards and risks that may arise from the working environment at the client's facility.

The client has appropriate arrangements for first aid, alarm, and rescue measures.

The client ensures that employees of the Environmental Verifier Organisation only operate in the presence of a client employee.

1.3.2. Environmental verifier Organisation

Employees of the Environmental Verifier Organisation may only operate when safe conditions are ensured. They have the right to refrain from performing their duties in the presence of unreasonable hazards or risks.

2. VALIDITY AND RIGHT OF USE OF THE DECLARATION OF VALIDITY

The validity declaration reflects the state found at the conclusion of the process (critical review). It does not contain any statements regarding the future. Any significant changes or new facts or findings must be promptly communicated in writing to the Environmental Verifier Organisation. Any product changes, new facts, or findings regarding the life cycle phases of a product invalidate the LCA validity declaration. The Environmental Verifier Organisation decides, after thorough examination, whether a modification, reissuance, or withdrawal of a validity declaration is necessary.

In the case of the critical review of the LCA methodology for product groups, the validity of the validity declaration is limited to one year from the conclusion of the critical review. Furthermore, any product changes or changes in facts related to the product also invalidate the validity declaration and must be promptly reported to the Environmental Verifier Organisation. After thorough examination, it decides whether a modification, reissuance, or withdrawal of a validity declaration is necessary.

The validity declaration is issued in German and, if applicable, in English. A translation into other languages is carried out to the best of our knowledge. In case of doubt or contradictions, only the German or English version is authoritative.

The validity declaration must not be used in a misleading manner, such as for advertising purposes.

The client is responsible for ensuring that the validity declaration is used in competition only in such a way that a statement corresponding to the validation is made about the validated area or subject of the client.

The client must ensure that, within the context of competition, there is no impression that the validation by the Environmental Verifier Organisation was an official inspection.

If the Environmental Verifier Organisation is held liable under product liability principles due to the client's improper use of the validity declaration, the client is obliged to indemnify the Environmental Verifier Organisation against all third-party claims. The same applies to cases where the Environmental Verifier Organisation is held liable by third parties due to advertising statements or other conduct by the client.

The client receives the non-transferable and non-exclusive right to use the validity declaration in accordance with the aforementioned terms. If the validity declaration is revoked, it may not be used from the date of revocation onwards (regardless of the contract term).

The use of the validity declaration is restricted to the client and may not be transferred to third parties or legal successors by the client without explicit permission from the Environmental Verifier Organisation. If a transfer is desired, a corresponding application must be submitted. If necessary, a new critical review must be conducted.

3. TERMINATION OF THE RIGHT USE

3.1. End of the right of use the declaration of validity

The client's right to use the validity declaration ends automatically with immediate effect, without the need for termination, if, among other things:

- the client does not promptly notify the Environmental Verifier Organisation of changes to the conditions relevant to the validity declaration,
- the validity declaration is used in a manner that violates Clause 2,
- insolvency proceedings are initiated over the client's assets, or a petition for insolvency proceedings against the client is rejected due to insufficient assets,
- disputes arise concerning the validity declaration related to competition law or industrial property rights
- after the expiration of one year without a subsequent surveillance audit or, if applicable, re-engagement (applies only to the critical review of the LCA methodology for product groups)

3.2. Environmental verifier organisation

The Environmental Verifier Organisation is entitled to suspend or declare a validity declaration invalid if new information relevant to the assessment of the process or its outcome becomes known to the Environmental Verifier Organisation after the fact.

The Environmental Verifier Organisation reserves the right to decide on validation matters, including the issuance or denial of the validity declaration, the expansion or restriction of the scope of the validity declaration, renewal, suspension, or restoration after withdrawal.

The Environmental Verifier Organisation has the right to initiate a devalidation process and withdraw or declare invalid the validity declaration after a competent analysis if the reasons listed in section 3.1 occur.

3.3. Client

Upon termination of the right to use, the client is obliged to immediately withdraw all validity declarations (originals, copies, PDF documents) and cease advertising with them.

4. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

The general conditions for the critical review of life cycle assessments apply correspondingly to supplements and parallel certificates.