

*These notes refer to the Climate Change Act 2008 (c.27)  
which received Royal Assent on 26th November 2008*

# CLIMATE CHANGE ACT 2008

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 6:** General supplementary provisions

##### **Interpretation**

##### ***Section 93: Measurement of emissions etc by reference to carbon dioxide equivalent***

488. This section provides that emissions of greenhouse gases are to be measured or calculated in “tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent” (defined in *subsection (2)*); this is to allow for the differing relative forcing effects and atmospheric lifetimes of differing greenhouse gases – for example, over 100 years, a tonne of methane has 23 times the global warming effect of carbon dioxide. These factors are known as “global warming potentials”, and are to be calculated consistently with international carbon reporting practice (defined in section 94).