

These notes refer to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (c.16) which received Royal Assent on 30 March 2006

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL COMMUNITIES ACT 2006

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 1: Natural England and the Commission for Rural Communities

Chapter 1: Natural England

Powers of Secretary of State

Section 15: Guidance

80. This section gives the Secretary of State power, following consultation with Natural England and the Environment Agency, to give guidance to Natural England about how to carry out its functions. *Subsection (1)* requires the Secretary of State to give guidance to Natural England as to how it exercises its functions in relation to regional planning and associated functions.
81. Similarly, Schedule 11 contains an amendment to section 4(5) of the Environment Protection Act 1995 to require the Secretary of State to consult Natural England as well as the Environment Agency before giving guidance to the Environment Agency.
82. Natural England and the Environment Agency are required to have regard to guidance issued to them by the Secretary of State.