
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2021 No. 189

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Carbon Accounting (Provision for 2019) Regulations 2021

Made - - - - 24th February 2021
Laid before Parliament 26th February 2021
Coming into force - - 24th March 2021

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 26(2), 27(3) and (4) and 90(3) of the Climate Change Act 2008 (“the Act”)(1), makes the following Regulations.

The Secretary of State, before making these Regulations, has consulted with the Scottish Ministers, the Welsh Ministers and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland, in accordance with section 28(4)(b) of the Act.

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Carbon Accounting (Provision for 2019) Regulations 2021 and come into force on 24th March 2021.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations—

“the 2009 Regulations” means the Carbon Accounting Regulations 2009(2);

“aerodrome” has the same meaning as in article 4(4) of the Climate Change Act 2008 (2020 Target, Credit Limit and Definitions) Order 2009(3);

“the domestic aviation cap” means the figure produced as a result of carrying out the calculation set out in paragraph 2 of the Schedule to these Regulations;

“domestic aviation emissions” means the emissions of carbon dioxide arising from any aircraft during taking off, flying and landing when the aerodrome from which the aircraft takes off and the aerodrome at which the aircraft next lands are both located in the United Kingdom.

(2) In calculating domestic aviation emissions and the domestic aviation cap, the Secretary of State must use such data about aviation emissions as appear to the Secretary of State to be the best available data.

(1) 2008 c. 27.

(2) S.I. 2009/1257, amended by S.I. 2009/3146, 2015/775 and 2020/115.

(3) S.I. 2009/1258.

Crediting and debiting of carbon units as a result of the operation of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme in respect of installations during 2019

3. If, in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2012⁽⁴⁾, the amount of carbon units surrendered by operators of installations⁽⁵⁾ in the United Kingdom in respect of 2019 was—

- (a) greater than 104,424,206, an amount of carbon units equal to the difference is to be credited to the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019;
- (b) less than 104,424,206, an amount of carbon units equal to the difference is to be debited from the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019.

Crediting and debiting of carbon units to take into account domestic aviation emissions during 2019

4. If domestic aviation emissions in 2019 were—

- (a) greater than the domestic aviation cap, an amount of carbon units equal to the difference is to be credited to the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019;
- (b) less than the domestic aviation cap, an amount of carbon units equal to the difference is to be debited from the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019.

Duty to cancel carbon units credited to the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019

5.—(1) The Secretary of State must, during a period beginning on 1st January 2023 and ending on 15th May 2024, ensure that each carbon unit credited to the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019 under regulation 5 of the 2009 Regulations is cancelled.

(2) A carbon unit is cancelled for the purpose of this regulation if an operation is performed in relation to it equivalent to the operation of cancellation or deletion under [Commission Regulation \(EU\) No 389/2013](#) of 2 May 2013 establishing a Union Registry pursuant to [Directive 2003/87/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council, Decisions No [280/2004/EC](#) and No [406/2009/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Commission Regulations [\(EU\) No 920/2010](#) and No 1193/2011, as it had effect immediately before IP completion day⁽⁶⁾.

Amendments to the Carbon Accounting Regulations 2009

6.—(1) The 2009 Regulations are amended as follows.

(2) In regulation 2—

- (a) in paragraph (1), in the definition of “the EU ETS”, after “Regulations 2005”, insert “or, as the case may be, the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2012”;
- (b) in paragraph (2), after “these Regulations”, insert “, except in regulation 9(6).”

(3) In regulation 9—

- (a) in paragraph (1), for the words from “these Regulations” to the end, substitute “carbon accounting legislation”;
- (b) in paragraph (3), for the words from “in accordance with” to “Regulations 2020”, substitute “following a calculation performed under carbon accounting legislation to

⁽⁴⁾ [S.I. 2012/3038](#), to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

⁽⁵⁾ See the definitions of “operator” and “installation” in regulation 3 of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2012.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ No. L 122, 3.5.2013, p. 1 as last amended by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/1122 of 12 March 2019 (OJ No. L 177, 2.7.2019, p. 3).

account for the operation of the EU ETS, including where carbon accounting legislation requires such a calculation in relation to domestic aviation emissions”;

(c) in paragraph (6), for the words from “regulation 5 of the Carbon Accounting (2013-2017 Budgetary Period) Regulations 2015” to “Regulations 2020”, substitute “a provision of carbon accounting legislation, other than regulation 8 of these Regulations”;

(d) after paragraph (6), insert—

“(7) In this regulation, “carbon accounting legislation” means any of the following—

- (a) these Regulations;
- (b) the Carbon Accounting (2013-2017 Budgetary Period) Regulations 2015⁽⁷⁾;
- (c) the Carbon Accounting (Provision for 2018) Regulations 2020⁽⁸⁾;
- (d) the Carbon Accounting (Provision for 2019) Regulations 2021.”.

Anne-Marie Trevelyan

Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial
Strategy

24th February 2021

⁽⁷⁾ S.I. 2015/775.

⁽⁸⁾ S.I. 2020/115.

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SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

The Domestic Aviation Cap

1. For the purpose of this Schedule—

“EEA aviation emissions” means the emissions of carbon dioxide arising from any aircraft during taking off, flying and landing when the aerodrome from which the aircraft takes off and the aerodrome at which the aircraft next lands are both located in the same EEA State;

“EEA State” means a state which was an EEA state on 31st December 2019 (whether or not that state was an EEA state in the years referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) and (c) of paragraph 2).

2. The domestic aviation cap (“DAC”), expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, is calculated as follows—

$$\text{DAC} = 0.95 \times E \times \frac{F}{G}$$

where—

- (a) E is the arithmetic mean of the EEA aviation emissions for each of the years 2004, 2005 and 2006,
- (b) F is domestic aviation emissions for 2010, and
- (c) G is EEA aviation emissions for 2010.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations make provision for carbon accounting in respect of 2019 for the purposes of Part 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008 (c. 27) (“the Act”). They form part of the rules for determining the net UK carbon account – defined in section 27(1) of the Act. The amount of the net UK carbon account for different periods determines whether the targets in the Act for emissions reductions have been met. These Regulations are relevant to the third carbon budget set under the Act, by the Carbon Budgets Order 2009 (S.I. 2009/1259), covering 2018-2022.

Regulation 3 sets out the circumstances in which carbon units are to be credited to and debited from the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019 as a result of the operation of the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme in that year other than in relation to aviation.

Regulation 4 sets out the circumstances in which carbon units are to be credited to and debited from the net UK carbon account to take into account domestic aviation emissions during 2019. It relies on the calculation of a domestic aviation cap in accordance with the Schedule.

Regulation 5 places a duty on the Secretary of State to cancel all the carbon units (if any) credited to the net UK carbon account in respect of 2019.

Regulation 6 amends the duty in regulation 9 of the Carbon Accounting Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/1257) (the “2009 Regulations”) on the Secretary of State to keep a register of carbon units credited to and debited from the net UK carbon account so that it takes account of these Regulations, and makes other minor amendments to facilitate future updates to the 2009 Regulations.

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An impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private or voluntary sectors is foreseen.