POLICY NOTE

THE CARBON ACCOUNTING SCHEME (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 2021

S.S.I. 2021/318

The above instrument is made in exercise of the power conferred by section 20(1) of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 ("the Act") and all other powers enabling the Scottish Ministers to do so. The instrument is subject to the negative procedure.

Policy Objectives

The purpose of these Regulations is to make a technical update to the definition of the "registry administrator" within the Carbon Accounting Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 2010 ("the 2010 Regulations").

Background

The need for this update stems from the UK's exit from the EU, one consequence of which has been that the registry for recording use by UK-based bodies of internationally recognised carbon units, under schemes such as the UN Kyoto Protocol, has changed from an EU-wide structure to a new UK Registry (maintained by the Environment Agency on behalf of the UK Government).

Under the 2010 Regulations, the Scottish Ministers are required to maintain an account for international carbon units, termed the "Scottish credit account", within the UK registry. The recent change in registry location has led to a technical deficiency arising in the definition of the term "registry administrator" as set out in regulation 2 of the 2010 Regulations, which is remedied by the present amendment Regulations.

Consultation

In preparing these Regulations, Scottish Government officials have liaised with counterparts in the UK Government and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency.

Financial Effects

A Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA) is not required, as the instrument will not, in itself, impose new regulatory burdens or costs on businesses, public sector organisations, charities or the voluntary sector.

Scottish Government Energy and Climate Change Directorate September 2021