Dear Consultee

Consultation on carbon units, the net UK carbon account and carbon accounting

The Department of Energy and Climate Change is carrying out a consultation on proposals for carbon accounting in the UK under the Climate Change Bill.

The carbon accounting rules being proposed in this consultation address the requirement in the Bill to put in place a scheme for carbon accounting through regulations approved by Parliament. They cover the requirements for the UK including the Devolved Administrations. The rules will be used to determine compliance with the targets and budgets established under the Bill.

Your views and comments on the proposals would be welcome, in particular to the specific questions raised in the consultation document. Please send your response by 19 January 2009 to:

- our consultation mail box (ukca@decc.gsi.gov.uk),
- or by post to
  Climate Change Strategy & Bill Delivery Team
  Area 4E
  Ergon House
  Horseferry Road
  London
  SW1P 2AL

This consultation is in line with the Code of practice on Consultations. This can be found at http://www.berr.gov.uk/bre/. Further details of how to respond and the consultation process are included in section 2.1 of the consultation document. Please note that, in line with our policy of openness, copies of the responses we receive may be made publicly available at the end of the consultation period. The information they contain – including your name, contact details and any other personal information – may also be published in a summary of responses. If you do not consent to this, you must clearly request that your response be treated confidentially.
The following relevant documents can be found on Defra’s website at http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/carbon-accounting/index.htm

- this consultation letter
- the consultation document
- the list of consultees

If you have any questions about the consultation exercise or wish to obtain a hard copy of the consultation document, please contact the Climate Change Strategy and Bill Delivery Team – contact details are as in the letterhead.

We will publish a review of the responses received. The next step will be to draft the carbon accounting regulations, taking account of the responses received, and to lay them before Parliament for approval in March 2009. This should allow the regulations to be in place when the first carbon budgets are announced alongside Budget 2009.

Yours faithfully

Benika Raybould
Department of Energy and Climate Change