Climate Change (No. 2) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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A

Bill

to

Set targets for the years 2050, 2040 and 2030 for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; to provide for a system of carbon budgeting; to provide for reporting and statements against those targets and budgets; to confer power to impose climate change reporting duties on public bodies; to provide for reports and advice from the Committee on Climate Change; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by being passed by the Northern Ireland Assembly and assented to by Her Majesty as follows:

The First Group of Parts

The First Group of Parts Heading

Part 1

Emissions Targets

The emissions targets

The emissions target for 2050

1. The Northern Ireland departments must ensure that the net Northern Ireland emissions account for the year 2050 is at least 82% lower than the baseline.

* List item 1
* List item 2
* List item 3

The emissions target for 2040

2. The Northern Ireland departments must ensure that the net Northern Ireland emissions account for the year 2040 is at least 69% lower than the baseline.

The emissions target for 2030

3. The Northern Ireland departments must ensure that the net Northern Ireland emissions account for the year 2030 is at least 48% lower than the baseline.

Power to amend targets

Power to amend emission targets

4.—(1) The Department may by regulations amend section 1, 2 or 3 so as to⁠—

(a) specify a different year for a particular emissions target;

(b) specify a different percentage for a particular year.

(2) The Department may by regulations amend this Part so as to impose a duty on the Northern Ireland departments to ensure that the net Northern Ireland emissions account for a specified year is at least a specified percentage lower than the baseline.

(3) See section Error: Reference source not found for restrictions on the powers conferred by subsections (1) and (2).

Meaning of key concepts

Meaning of “baseline”

5**.**—(1) The baseline is the aggregate amount of net Northern Ireland emissions of each greenhouse gas mentioned in the following table in the year specified in relation to that gas⁠—

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Greenhouse gas* | *Year* |
| Carbon dioxide | 1990 |
| Methane  1990 | |
| Nitrous oxide | 1990 |
| Hydroflourocarbons | 1995 |
| Perflourocarbons | 1995  1995 |
| Sulphur hexaflouride |
| Nitrogen triflouride | 1995 |

(2) The Department may by regulations amend the table in subsection (1) so as to specify a different year in relation to a greenhouse gas.

(3) See section Error: Reference source not found for restrictions on the power conferred by subsection Error: Reference source not found.

Meaning of “net Northern Ireland emissions account” for a year

6. The net Northern Ireland emissions account for a year is determined as follows⁠—

(a) take the aggregate amount of net Northern Ireland emissions of each greenhouse gas for that year (which is to be determined in accordance with sections 7 and 8),

* This is a list in the middle of nowwhere and looks weird

(b) deduct the amount of carbon units that are to be credited to the net Northern Ireland emissions account for that year (in accordance with regulations under section Error: Reference source not found), and

(c) add the amount of carbon units that are to be debited from the net Northern Ireland emissions account for that year (also in accordance with regulations under section Error: Reference source not found).

Meaning of underlying concepts

Meaning of “net Northern Ireland emissions”

7.—(1) The amount of net Northern Ireland emissions of a greenhouse gas for a period is⁠—

(a) the amount of Northern Ireland emissions of the gas for the period (see subsection (2)),

minus

* This is a list that is the child of a subsections
* List item 2

(b) the amount of Northern Ireland removals of the gas for the period (see subsection (3)).

(2) The Northern Ireland emissions of a gas for a period are⁠—

(a) emissions of the gas from sources in Northern Ireland in the period, and

This is some right aligned text that should completely throw off the parser

(b) emissions of the gas from international aviation or international shipping that count as Northern Ireland emissions for the period (as determined by regulations under section 8).

(3) The Northern Ireland removals of a gas for a period are removals of the gas from the atmosphere in the period due to⁠—

(a) land use in Northern Ireland;

(b) land-use change in Northern Ireland; and

(c) forestry activities in Northern Ireland.

(4) The Department may by regulations amend subsection (3) so as to amend the definition of Northern Ireland removals.

(5) The amounts of Northern Ireland emissions and Northern Ireland removals of a gas for a period must be determined consistently with international carbon reporting practice (see section Error: Reference source not found).

Meaning of “Northern Ireland emissions”: international aviation and shipping

8.—(1) The Department may by regulations make provision for emissions of a greenhouse gas from international aviation or international shipping to count as Northern Ireland emissions of the gas.

(2) The regulations may⁠—

(a) specify activities which are to be regarded as international aviation or international shipping;

(b) specify the circumstances in which, and the extent to which, emissions of a greenhouse gas from international aviation or international shipping are to count as Northern Ireland emissions of that gas;

(c) specify the period (whether past or future) for which emissions of a greenhouse gas from international aviation or international shipping are to count as Northern Ireland emissions of that gas;

(d) make provision about how emissions of a greenhouse gas from international aviation or international shipping are to be taken into account in determining Northern Ireland emissions of that gas for the year specified in section 5(1) in relation to it.